AQUA SCANS
PRESENTS
The End of Elysion-c.7
RW: SHIRO
ED: MIZUOUJI & SAYURI
TL: EXIAHL
PR: OKAYSKY
QC: MIZUOUJI
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COLOR PAGES
TO CELEBRATE THE
RELEASE OF THE
FIRST VOLUME!!
WHO IS
IT?

待望の
コミックス
第1巻
10/24発売!!
SOMEDAY
WE WILL
REACH
ETERNAL
PEACE...
終焉の
The End of Elysion
エリュシオン
蓮見ナツメ
Chapter 7. A new friend.

TANAKA?
SUZUKI?
I DON'T KNOW, SATOU?
NOPE.
NOPE.
NOPE! NOPE! WRONG ANSWER.
...
EH?
THE ONE WHO WAS THERE WAS...
WHAT IS IT ALL OF A SUDDEN?
STOP IT ALREADY.
HUH? DIDN'T THE TEACHER TELL YOU?
FOR REAL, WHO ARE YOU!?

SINCE I'VE BEEN DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITAL, I'M FINALLY ABLE TO COME BACK TO SCHOOL!
I'M PLEASED TO MEET YOU! MY NAME IS TSUGUMI KANATA!
LET'S GET ALONG SINCE WE ARE CLASS MATES!
AH, SO YOU ARE TSUGUMI?
YUP!
YOU'RE KAGURAGI FUTABA, RIGHT?
PLEASE TREAT ME WELL FROM NOW ON.

ストーリー

数百年前、命を繋して混沌の王を封印した神楽木家の繰と一葉。一族による永遠に転生する運命を課せられた二人は、一族の双葉らと共に、王を倒す「鍵方」の欠片を探しながら、〝青嵐楼〟を退治していた。ある日、青嵐楼を退治していた繰は、そこで王の気配を感じ取る。王本体の封印は解けていないものの、翌日には一葉と双葉も気配を感じ、混乱する一同。そこには一人の少年がいた。次の日、入院していたクラスメイトの世話を任された双葉と別れて帰ろうとした繰は、そこで王の気配を感じて――!?

EH. YOU DON'T WANT TO PLAY TAG WITH ME?
がっかり…
WHAT IS IT? DON'T MAKE THAT DISAPPOINTED FACE!
HIGH SCHOOLERS DON'T PLAY TAG.

THEN, WE ARE PLAYING TAG!
I'LL RUN AWAY, SO COUNT TO TEN AND THEN CHASE AFTER ME!
I'M NOT PLAYING, SO DON'T RUN AWAY!

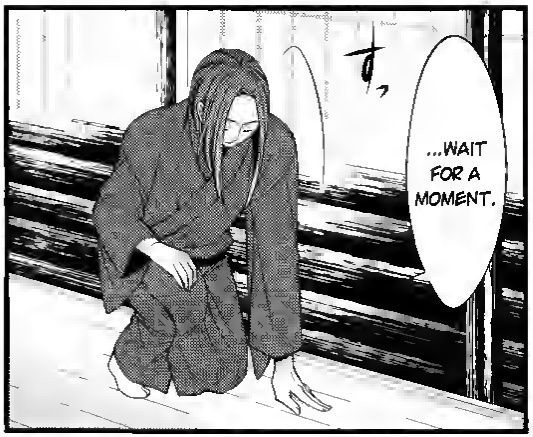
THEN, LET'S PLAY STATUES?
THAT'S OUT OF THE QUESTION…

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN HOSPITALIZED, THAT'S WHY I DON'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS OF MY AGE… SO I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.
IS THAT SO?
SORRY.

HUH?
THEN, KAGURAGI-KUN, WILL YOU BE MY FRIEND?
AH... THERE'S NOT NEED TO APOLOGIZE...
WELL, I WAS ASKED TO BY THE TEACHER, SO UNTIL YOU GET USED TO IT, I'LL LOOK AFTER YOU.
CALL ME KANATA!
LET'S GET ALONG FROM NOW ON!
WHAT'S WITH HIM CALLING ME BY MY FIRST NAME ALL OF A SUDDEN?
THANKS FUTABA!

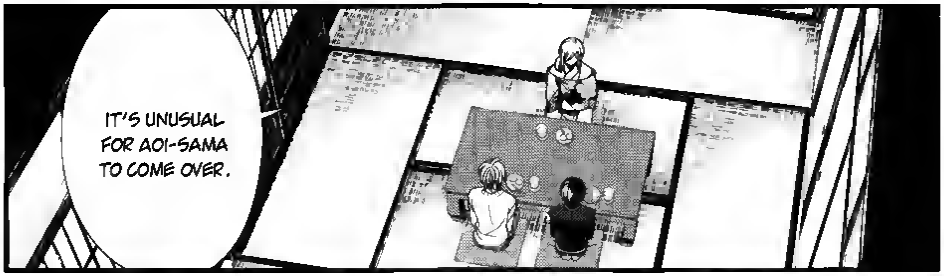
HE REALLY CLOSES THE DISTANCE BETWEEN PEOPLE VIGOROUSLY.
HE IS NOT A BAD GUY, THOUGH.
HOW TALL ARE YOU?
MY HEIGHT?
UM... I MEASURED IT RECENTLY...
SO I THINK I'M AROUND 155 CM TALL.
LET'S GET ALONG FROM NOW ON.
YES!

スタスタスタ
EH? WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
?
OKAY.
COME WITH ME, KAZUHA.
MINAZUKI.


...WAIT FOR A MOMENT.

I WANT TO TALK TO THE HEAD.
IS HISUI HERE?

UNDER-
STOOD.
OH, COME ON!
IF YOU ARE
HERE, YOU CAN
CALL FOR ME
NATURALLY!
MINAZUKI!
PREPARE TEA!
THE BEST ONE!
AND BRING THOSE
TEA CAKES WE
RECEIVED TOO!


IT'S UNUSUAL
FOR AOI-SAMA
TO COME OVER.

WOAH!
THANK
YOU!!
YOU CAN
HAVE THIS
IF YOU
LIKE!
THE SWEET
POTATOES
FROM HERE
ARE REALLY
DELICIOUS!

THAT'S
RIGHT! WE
RECEIVED THE
FRAGMENT
OF SUOH YOU
FOUND THE
OTHER DAY!
WITH THIS
WE ARE A
STEP CLOSER
TO REPAIRING
IT!

OH, THAT'S QUITE A STRANGE SIGHT.
... I WANTED TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED DURING THE BATTLE THE OTHER DAY.
THE YOGUE WERE ACTING AS IF THEY WERE COOPERATING.
SO, WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANTED TO TALK ABOUT?
AND RIGHT AFTER THAT, FOR A SECOND I FELT A PRESENCE THAT WAS SIMILAR TO THE KING'S.
A PRESENCE THAT WAS SIMILAR TO THE KING'S?
I HURRIED AND CHECKED THE KING'S SEAL, BUT IT WAS JUST AS ALWAYS. THOUGH IT'S WEAKENED, THERE ARE NO PROBLEMS WITH IT.
KAZUHA AND FUTABA FELT IT TOO. SO IT CANNOT BE JUST MY IMAGINATION.
AND THEN, THE NEXT DAY, THE YOGUE COOPERATED AGAIN AS THEY HAD THE DAY BEFORE. AND RIGHT AFTER THAT I FELT A PRESENCE SIMILAR TO THE KING'S FOR A SECOND TIME.

WE STILL DON'T KNOW WHOSE PRESENCE IT IS...
BUT I CAME HERE TO INFORM YOU AND TO HEAR YOUR OPINION.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
.....
DO YOU KNOW HOW THE KING WAS BORN, AOI-SAMA?
NO.
I SEARCHED THROUGH ALL THE DOCUMENTS THAT OUR CLAN HAS LEFT, BUT LOOKING INTO THE RECORDS OF THE FIRST PERSON WITHIN THE KAGURAGI FAMILY TO MEET THE KING, IT SEEMS LIKE THE KING ALREADY LOOKED THE WAY HE DOES NOW.
WE DON'T KNOW WHERE HE WAS BORN OR FROM WHERE HE CAME.

SO I MEAN
IT WOULDN'T BE WEIRD IF A SECOND KING
WERE TO BE BORN IN THE PRESENT.

LET'S STOP THINKING NEGATIVELY
OR THE YOGUE WILL TEMPT US!
THIS IS JUST THE WORST POSSIBLE OUTCOME THAT I IMAGINED.
JUST KIDDING!
I'VE HEARD THAT ON ONE OF THE BRANCH FAMILIES, THERE ARE A PAIR OF TWINS THAT IN SPITE OF BEING YOUNG, ARE VERY TALENTED.
I'LL ASK THEM TO COME HERE.
BUT THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH BEING CAUTIOUS.
SO NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, WE CAN DEAL WITH IT.
AND IF SOMETHING WEIRD HAPPENS AGAIN, PLEASE INFORM ME IMMEDIATELY.
SO FOR THE TIME BEING, AOI-SAMA AND THE REST PLEASE CONTINUE SEARCHING FOR SUCH AS YOU'VE BEEN DOING UP UNTIL NOW.

WE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT CANDIES FOR A WHILE, RIGHT?
YES.
ドサッ
WE GOT LOTS OF PRES-ENTS.
DO YOU NEED A TOWEL OR SOMETHING?
YOU CAN HAVE THIS TOO
THIS AND THIS!
...
AOI-SAMA, IT'S DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO DEAL WITH HISUI-SAMA, RIGHT?

毎月28日発売!! 月刊Comic ゼロサム ZERO SUM

HOW DID YOU NOTICE?
AOI-SAMA, YOU USUALLY LOOK AT PEOPLE IN THE EYES WHEN YOU TALK TO THEM, BUT YOU LOOK AWAY WHEN TALKING TO HIM.

AH, NOW THAT YOU SAY SO, THAT'S TRUE.
HE LOOKS EXACTLY THE SAME AS THE PERSON FROM THAT TIME THAT CAST US THE SPELL TO REINCARNATE.

IT CAN'T BE HELPED THAT THE NAME HISUI IS INHERITED, BUT EVEN THE FACE IS THE SAME...
EVEN IF I DON'T WANT TO, I CAN'T STOP REMEMBERING ABOUT THAT PERSON.
WELL, THERE'S NOT MUCH THAT CAN BE DONE.
... KAZUHA, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT WHAT HISUI SAID?
ABOUT THE SECOND KING?
YES.
THERE'S NO WAY SUCH A THING HAPPENED.
HISUI-SAMA SAID SO TOO, IT WAS JUST THE WORST POSSIBLE SCENARIO.
ALSO WE'VE BEEN REBORN THIS MANY TIMES, BUT NOTHING LIKE THAT EVER HAPPENED!

...OR
AT LEAST I WISH I COULD LAUGH ABOUT IT LIKE THAT.
BUT I BELIEVE IN THE PRESENCE WE FELT.
WE'VE BEEN LOOKING AT THE KING ALL THIS TIME, THERE'S NO WAY WE'VE MISTAKEN HIS PRESENCE.
THAT'S RIGHT
BUT... IF THAT WAS THE CASE, IT'LL BE WEIRD FOR US TO BE ABLE TO LIVE SO PEACEFULLY.

KAZUHA.
THAT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE.
IF THAT WAS THE CASE, WE TOO HAVE SOMETHING TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF.
WELL, WE CAN THINK
THAT EVEN IF HIS EXISTENCE IS JUST AS THE KINGS, HE DOESN'T HAVE THAT MUCH POWER OR THAT HE IS PLANNING SOMETHING SO HE HASN'T MADE HIS MOVE YET.
I DON'T PLAN ON LOSING ANYTHING.
NOR THIS LIFE-STYLE.
NOR THIS WORLD,
NOR YOU, KAZUHA.

Something unusual is happening to the King's seal!

ヒロ

TO BE CONTINUED.

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ZERO-SUM RELAY ESSAY
STORIES OF CATS AND BAMBOO LADLES

CH. 13

TOPIC: FAVORITE FOOD

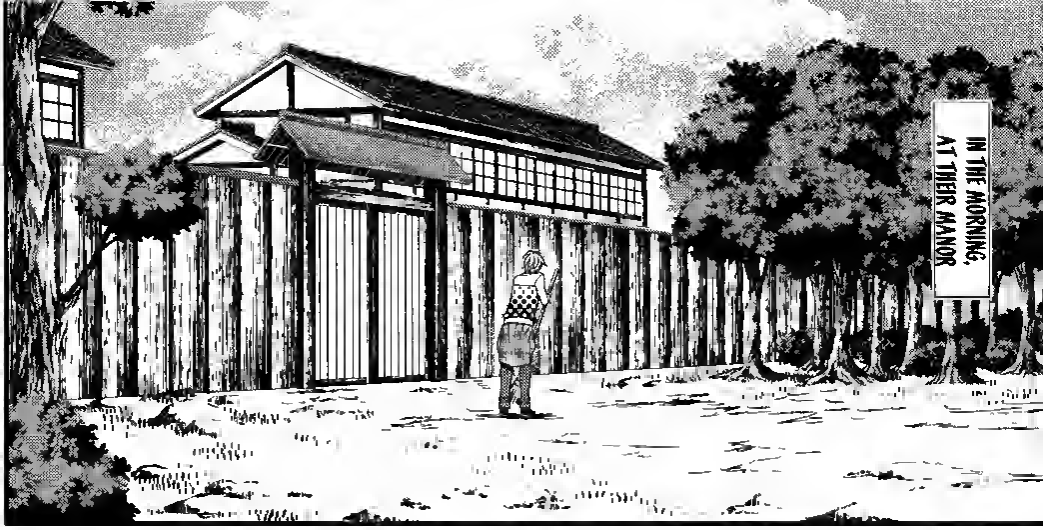
HASUMI-SENSEI LASTEST WORK SHUUEN NO ELYSION VOL.1 IS NOW ON SALE!
I KNOW, RIGHT?
THIS YEAR WE HAVE A LOT
I LIKE GINKGO NUTS
I ALSO LIKE THE NUTS THAT ARE BOUGHT AT THE STORES
BUT THE ONES I LIKE THE MOST ARE THE ONES I EAT AND PEEL AT HOME
I'M ALREADY USED TO THE SOUND OF THEM EXPLODING
BANG
BABABANG
EVEN THOUGH THE PROPER WAY TO EAT THEM IS TO FRY THEM WITH A PAN OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT
SINCE IT TAKES A LOT OF TIME, IN MY HOUSE WE JUST WRAP IT WITH SOME PAMPHLETS AND WE PUT THEM ON THE MICRO-WAY
DO YOU WANT ME TO DO IT FOR YOU?
ARGH!!
THIS WAY WE CAN SAVOR EACH ONE OF THEM
EVEN THOUGH IT S A BIT TROUBLESOME TO BREAK THE SHELL OF EACH ONE OF THEM WITH PLIERS AND TO PEEL THEM.

終焉のエリュシオン

The End of Elysion

Chapter 8. A nice dinning table.

蓮見ナツメ


IN THE MORNING, AT THEIR MANOR.

UM... EXCUSE ME.

!

FU-TA-BA!
バタバタバタ
WAKE UP! FU-TA-BA!
ゆさゆさ
URGH.
WHAT IS IT, KAZUHA? YOU'RE SO NOISY AT SUCH AN EARLY HOUR.
もぞ
DON'T FALL ASLEEP AGAIN! YOU HAVE A GUEST!

A GUEST ...?
ぼや...
WHY ARE YOU HERE!?
SO-SORRY, I WANTED TO ASK FOR YOUR HELP IN MY STUDIES.
SO I ASKED THE TEACHER FOR YOUR ADDRESS.
DON'T SAY SUCH A RUDE THING WHEN YOUR FRIEND SPECIALLY CAME TO VISIT.
ばっ

TO STUDY?
THEN, YOU CAN USE MY ROOM. IT'S QUIET SINCE IT'S FAR FROM THE STREETS.
THAT'S RIGHT!
LET'S GO, TSUGUMI-KUN! THIS WAY!
DON'T START MAKING PLANS WITHOUT ME!
FUTABA TOO, COME ONCE YOU CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES.
DON'T MAKE YOUR FRIEND WAIT!
WHY IS HE SO EX-CITED?
.....
ドクドクドク

ウロ
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ウロ
ウロ
.....
SO ANNOYING! IF YOU ARE SO CURIOUS, JUST COME IN!
AOI-SAMA TOO, STOP IT!
HEHEHE.
SORRY, SORRY!
WELL THEN, WE'LL BE INTRUDING FOR A BIT.

SO YOU WERE JUST DISCHARGED FROM THE HOSPITAL~
AND YOU ARE FINALLY ABLE TO GO TO SCHOOL, I'M GLAD FOR YOU.
YES!
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS SITUA-TION...?
OH, THAT'S RIGHT!
WHY DON'T YOU STAY FOR DINNER?
EH?
EH~ CAN I?
OF COURSE!

TSUMUGI-KUN, IS THERE SOME-THING YOU CAN'T EAT?
I'M FINE WITH EVERY-THING!
LET'S DO SOMETHING EXTRAVA-GANT LIKE SUKIYAKI.
AH! THAT'S A GOOD IDEA! LET'S NOT WASTE A MINUTE AND GO BUY THE INGREDIENTS NOW.

WELL, SEE YOU LATER!
THANKS!
HAVE FUN STUDYING WITH YOUR FRIEND, FUTABA.
...OKAY.
TAKE IT EASY, TSUMUGI-KUN!

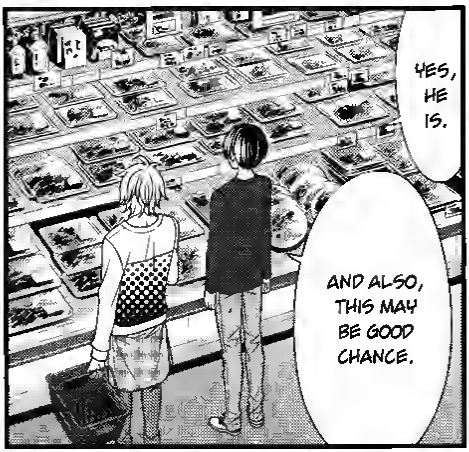
IS AOI-SAMA ALSO IN HIGH SPIRITS OR IS IT JUST MY IMAGI-NATION?

OKAY!
GIVE ME YOUR CELL-PHONE.
BUT NEXT TIME, CALL BEFORE COMING,

DON'T WORRY. IT'S OKAY.
SORRY, FUTABA FOR COMING SO SUDDENLY.

OKAY!
YOU CAN CALL ME WHENEVER YOU WANT.
.....

YAY!
IT'S THE FIRST CONTACT I HAVE THAT'S NOT MY FAMILY!


YES, HE IS.
AND ALSO, THIS MAY BE GOOD CHANCE.

TSUGUMI-KUN IS SUCH A NICE GUY!

NOWADAYS, THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WHO ARE BORN INTO THE KAGURAGI FAMILY DESPITE HAVING NOTHING TO DO WITH THE YOGUE.
FUTABA SHOULD BE AROUND OTHER PEOPLE APART FROM US.
WE ARE DRAGGING HIM INTO OUR DESTINY BUT HE DOESN'T HAVE TO CHOOSE A LIFE FILLED WITH FIGHTING EVERY DAY.

EVER SINCE HE WAS YOUNG, FUTABA HAD TO CARRY SUCH A HUGE BURDEN.
THAT'S WHY I WANT HIM TO BE FREE AND HAPPY.
AZAMI.
I DON'T KNOW WHY HIS MOTHER IS SO OBSESSED WITH ME BUT THERE'S NO NEED FOR HIM TO BE A VICTIM.
LATELY, IT LOOKS LIKE AS IF HE WAS AVOIDING MAKING FRIENDS IN ORDER TO BE WITH US.
THAT'S RIGHT.
THAT'S PROBABLY HIS MOTHER'S FAULT.

THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO IN THIS KIND OF SITUATIONS.
THAT'S RIGHT.
TO CUT TIES WITH HIM WON'T SOLVE ANYTHING EITHER.
THE DOCTOR WAS ALSO WORRIED ABOUT THAT AND WAS TRYING TO TALK TO FUTABA OCCASIONALLY, BUT IT'S DIFFICULT.

IF ONLY WE WEREN'T HERE, THIS PROBLEM WOULDN'T OCCUR.

THERE'S NO WAY THAT THE ROOT OF ALL THIS PROBLEMS WOULD BE ABLE TO SAY ANYTHING.

WE ARE IN A DIFFICULT POSITION.
HHMN.

CAN I GO TO THE TOILET?
YES, ONCE YOU EXIT THE ROOM, TURN RIGHT. THE BATHROOM IS AT THE END OF THE HALLWAY.
DO YOU WANT ME TO GO WITH YOU?
DON'T WORRY, I'LL BE BACK SOON.
…ぱたん

I KNOW.
THERE'S SOMETHING INSIDE THIS BUILDING.
SIGH.

KING! SO YOU WERE HERE!
KING!
ぐしゃっ
KI-...

... CALM DOWN, YORU.
THE KING IS THERE?
HAAA.
THAT'S RIGHT! WITHOUT ANY DOUBT!
WE HAVE TO SAVE HIM RIGHT AWAY!
WAIT.
FOR TODAY, LET'S BE SATISFIED WITH LEARNING WHERE HE IS.
BREAKING INTO THAT PLACE IS OUR LAST RESORT.
BUT ...
EVEN IF WE TRY IT NOW, WE WILL ONLY BE CAPTURED.
THAT PLACE IS PROBABLY LOCKED AND WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO BREAK THE SPELL HE'S UNDER.
BESIDES, IF WE FAIL NOW, THEY WILL JUST TIGHTEN THE SECURITY.

I UNDER-STAND... LET'S DO AS YOU SAY.
THANKS.
WE HAVE TO GO BACK QUICKLY, IF WE DON'T, HE WILL START THINK-ING THAT SOMETHING HAS HAP-PENED.

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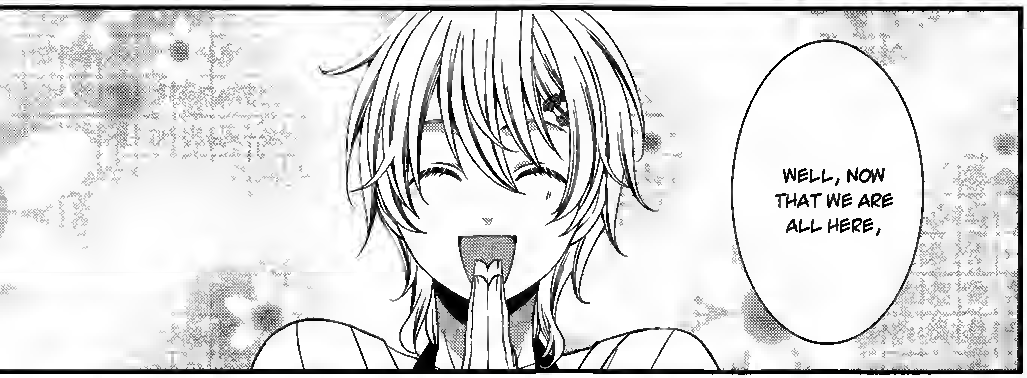
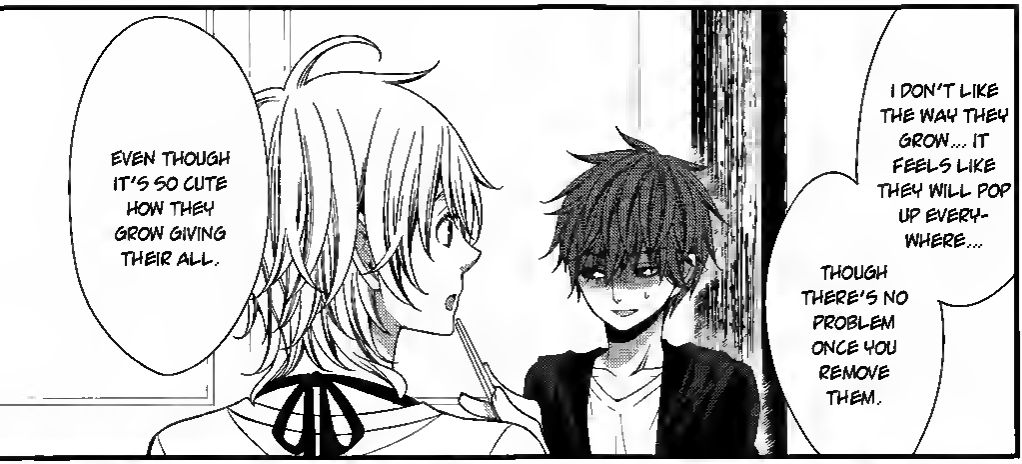

WELL, NOW THAT WE ARE ALL HERE,

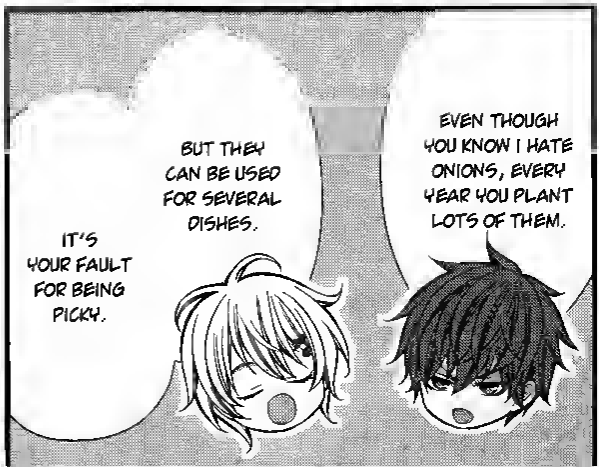
LET'S DIG IN!

THIS SHIITAKE MUSH-ROOM IS REALLY THICK!
OKAY!
THERE'S A LOT OF FOOD, SO EAT ALL YOU WANT~
NO WAY!
WE HAD THIS KIT TO PLANT SHIITAKE MUSHROOMS AT HOME EASILY.
WE GREW IT OUR-SELVES.
WOW! AWESOME!!
THEY GROW REALLY FAST.
IT'S FUN TO SEE HOW THEY POP OUT ONE AFTER ANOTHER.


I DON'T LIKE THE WAY THEY GROW... IT FEELS LIKE THEY WILL POP UP EVERY-WHERE...
THOUGH THERE'S NO PROBLEM ONCE YOU REMOVE THEM.
EVEN THOUGH IT'S SO CUTE HOW THEY GROW GIVING THEIR ALL.

WHY DON'T YOU LIKE THEM?
BECAUSE ONCE YOU EAT THEM, YOUR MOUTH WILL STINK OF ONIONS FOR AN ENTIRE DAY.

WOW!! AWESOME! SOUNDS LIKE SO MUCH FUN!
ALSO, WE ARE GROWING ONIONS HERE,
THERE'S NOTHING BUT LAND, SO WE MADE A SMALL KITCHEN GARDEN.


EVEN THOUGH YOU KNOW I HATE ONIONS, EVERY YEAR YOU PLANT LOTS OF THEM.
BUT THEY CAN BE USED FOR SEVERAL DISHES.
IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR BEING PICKY.

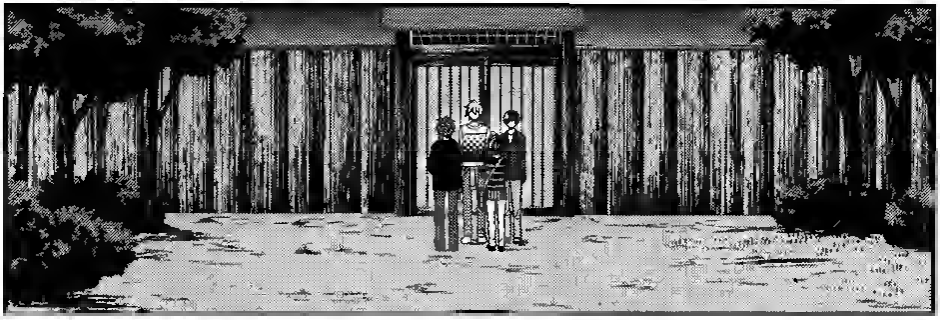
CAN I? I REALLY WANT TO!
IF YOU WANT, NEXT TIME WE CAN PLANT SOMETHING TOGETHER!

EH... EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE SO TASTY.
EVEN IF IT GETS SOFTER, AN ONION IS STILL AN ONION! THEY HAVE A STRONG SELF-ASSERTION!
AND IF YOU COOK THEM?

IT'S FINE! I'VE NEVER HAD SO MUCH STAMINA IN MY LIFE AS I HAVE NOW!
SPEAKING OF WHICH, THE ROAD LEADING HERE IS QUITE A MOUNTAINOUS ONE, WASN'T IT TOUGH?
EVEN THOUGH WORKING IN A GARDEN SOUNDS EASY, IT REQUIRES A LOT OF STAMINA.
YOU WERE JUST DISCHARGED FROM THE HOSPITAL, ARE YOU GOING TO BE OKAY?

I NOW KNOW HOW FUN IS TO MOVE YOUR BODY FREELY.
ほそ

WELL THEN, TO GAIN MORE STAMINA, EAT MORE AND MORE MEAT!
OKAY!



BE CAREFUL. IT GETS REALLY DARK AROUND HERE AT NIGHT.
SEE HIM OFF PROPERLY, FUTABA!
I KNOW!
THANKS FOR THE FOOD! IT WAS DELI CIOUS!

BYE, BYE!
COME ON. LET'S GET GOING BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.
OKAY!
I'LL SAVE YOU SOON.
WAIT FOR ME, KING.
TO BE CONTINUED.

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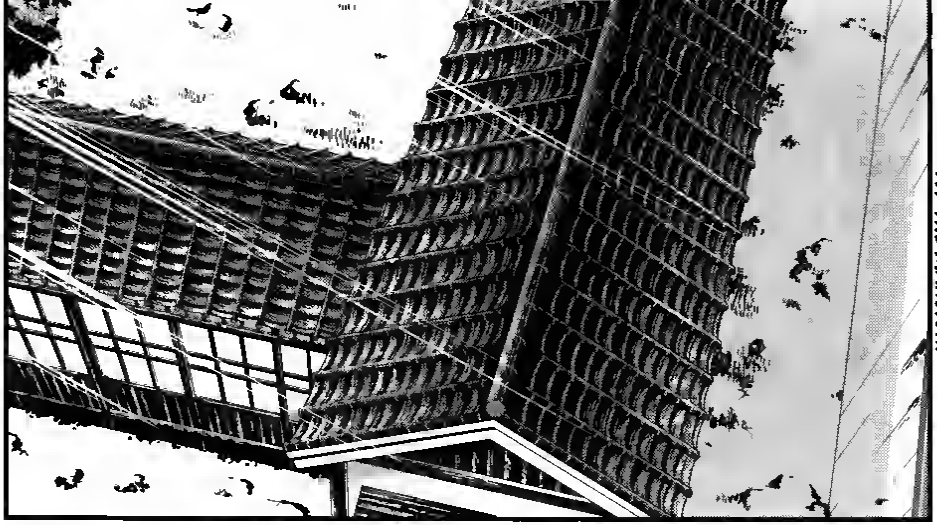
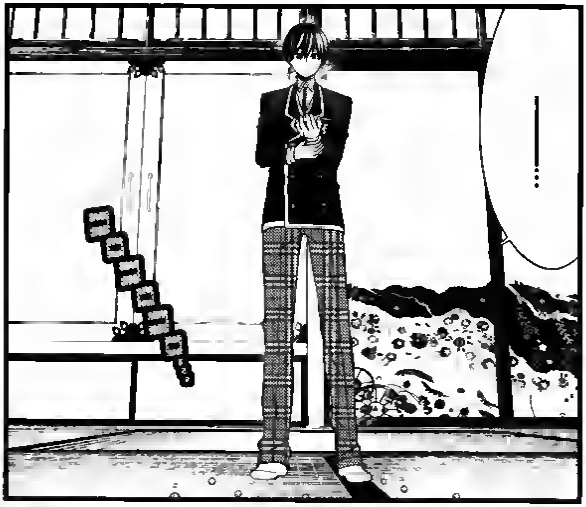
AT TIMES,
CHARMING.
終焉のエリュシオン
The End of Elysion
CHAPTER 9: THE SAME DREAM
蓮見ナツメ


AT THE MANSION.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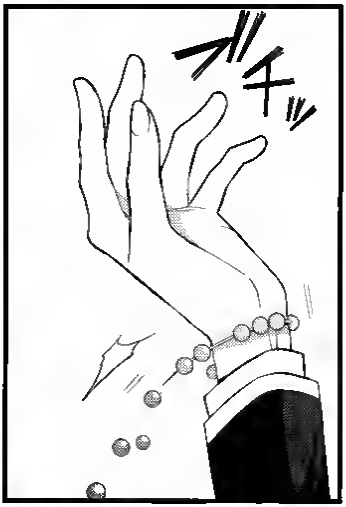
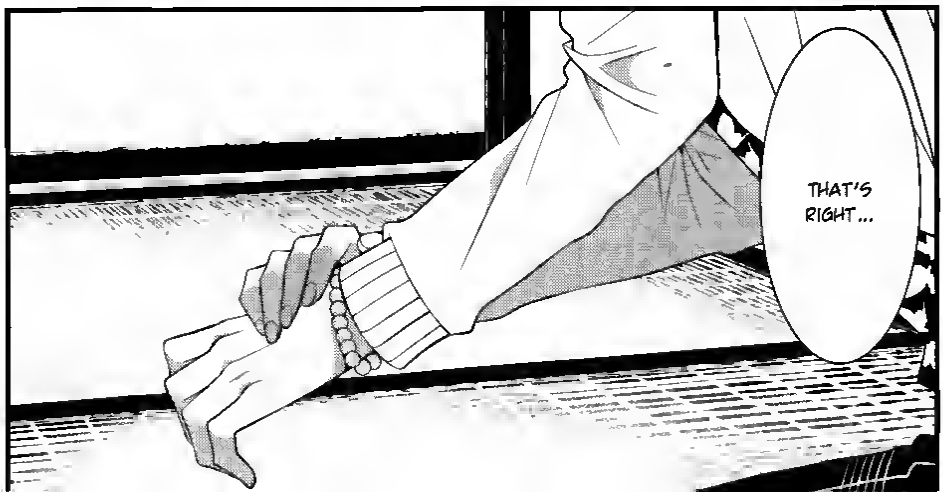
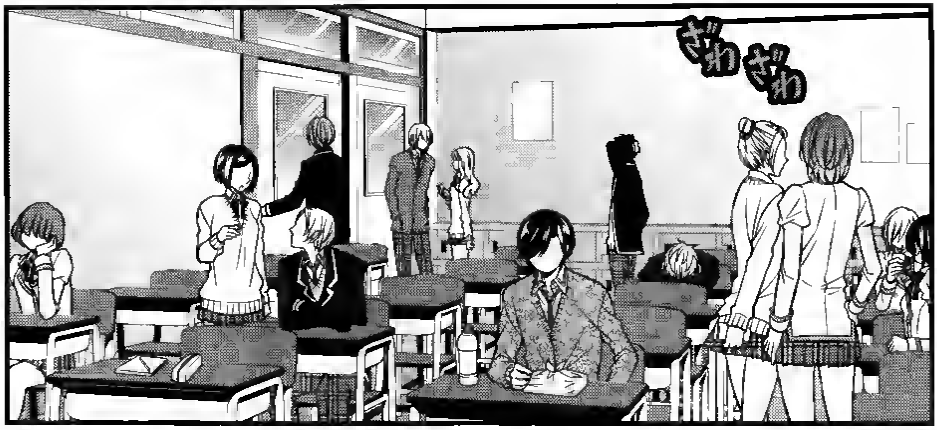

ガチッ

AOI-SAMA, IS SOME-THING THE MATTER?

.....
...WE'VE HAD THESE FOR A LONG TIME NOW.
SORRY, IT SNAPPED ALL OF A SUDDEN SO IT SURPRISED ME.
AH, THE THREAD SNAPPED. I'LL FIX IT FOR YOU.
GOOD THING YOU WERE AT HOME WHEN IT SNAPPED, IF NOT, YOU WOULD HAVE LOST IT.


THAT'S RIGHT...


ざわ ざわ

FUTABA.
KANA-TA.

OKAY, LET'S GO TO HAVE LUNCH.

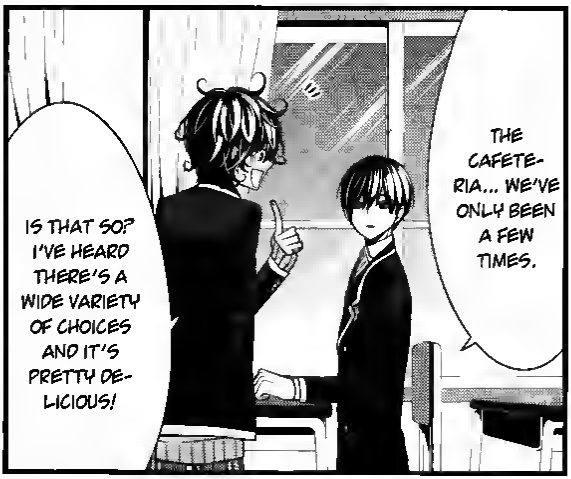
..THE CAFETE-RIA..
I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO GOING WITH YOU..

I'M SORRY. I'M EATING A BENTOU WITH AOI-SAMA AND KAZUHA AS I ALWAYS DO.
LET'S HAVE LUNCH TO-GETHER!
I WANT TO GO TO THE CAF-ETERIA!

I ASKED EVERY-ONE... AND INVESTI-GATED WHAT WAS TASTY AND ASKED FOR RECOM-MENDA-TIONS...
I SEE...
WELL, OKAY! I'LL GO TO THE CAFETERIA TODAY!
ぱぁあ
FOR REAL !?
HE IS REALLY IN A GOOD MOOD...
UM... SO I'LL BE GOING TO THE CAFETERIA TODAY

I SEE...
I SEE!
HAVE FUN!

FUTABA.
ちょいちょい


THE CAFETERIA... WE'VE ONLY BEEN A FEW TIMES.
IS THAT SO? I'VE HEARD THERE'S A WIDE VARIETY OF CHOICES AND IT'S PRETTY DELICIOUS!

!?
HERE! USE MINE!

COME TO THINK OF IT, I DIDN'T THINK I WAS GOING TO USE ANY MONEY, SO I DON'T KNOW.
ぼそ
DO YOU HAVE MONEY?

LISTEN! IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW MUCH OF A GOOD FRIEND HE IS, YOU SHOULDN'T BORROW MONEY SO EASILY!
BORROW MONEY, YOU SAY? IT WOULDN'T BE MORE THAN 1000 YEN...
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER THE AMOUNT IS BIG OR SMALL!!

FUTABA, LET'S GET GOING!
O-OKAY.

MAYBE HE IS COMPATIBLE WITH SOMEONE WHO DRAGS HIM AROUND LIKE TSUGUMI-KUN DOES.
YOU'RE RIGHT.

WHAT SHOULD I ORDER? ♪
HAVEN'T YOU ALREADY DECIDED?

...BUT
I FEEL A LITTLE LONELY.
ME TOO.
WHAT ABOUT GOING TO THE CAFETERIA NEXT TIME?
THAT'S A GOOD IDEA!
OR MAYBE I SHOULD PREPARE FOUR BENTOUS!
ざわざわ

YES, I ALWAYS EAT THE BENTOS KAZUHA PREPARES.
I ONLY COME TO BUY DRINKS, SO I'VE NEVER BEEN HERE FOR LUNCH.
EH? IT'S THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE BEEN TO THE CAFETERIA, FUTABA?
WOW, THERE ARE A LOT OF CHOICES.

YOU THREE ARE TOGETHER BOTH AT HOME AND AT SCHOOL! YOU REALLY GET ALONG!
I SEE!

YES!
GET ALONG ...?

YOU'RE WRONG...
WE DON'T GET ALONG.

.....

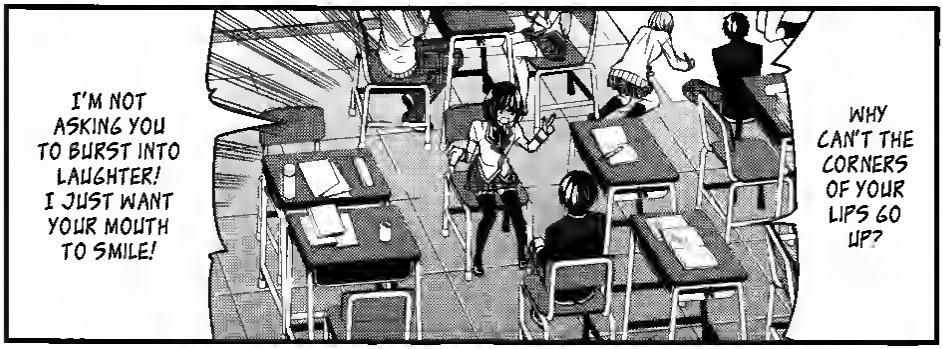
I'LL ORDER THAT.
EH!? CAN YOU EAT THAT MUCH?

AH. THERE'S AN OPTION THAT INCLUDES EVERYTHING!
WHAT?

LUNCH A, B AND C WITH ALL THE SIDE DISHES!
THAT'S A LOT OF FOOD...
MIXED-FRIED-FOOD AND BURGERS AND SHOUGAYAKI!

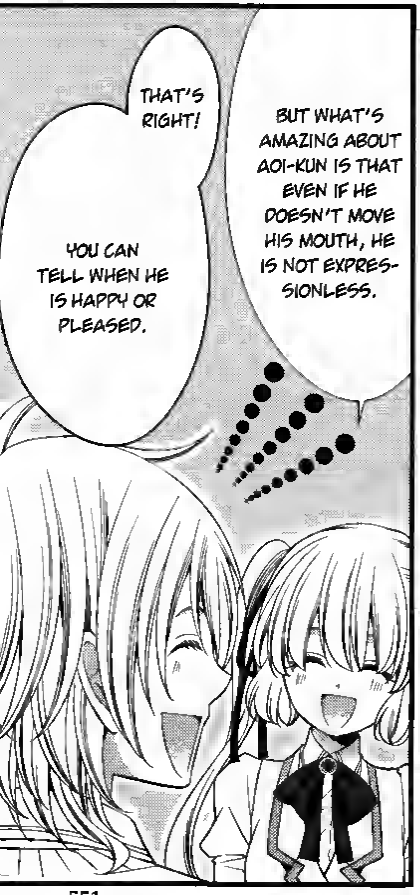
HOW DOES ALL THAT FOOD FIT IN THAT TINY BODY?
EH? OF COURSE! I WAS THINKING WHETHER TO ORDER A CURRY-UDON TOO.

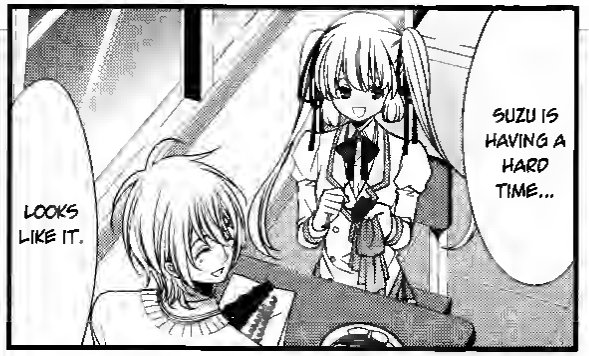
HMMM...


I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO BURST INTO LAUGHTER! I JUST WANT YOUR MOUTH TO SMILE!
WHY CAN'T THE CORNERS OF YOUR LIPS GO UP?

DON'T JUST SAY IT!
"SMILE"?

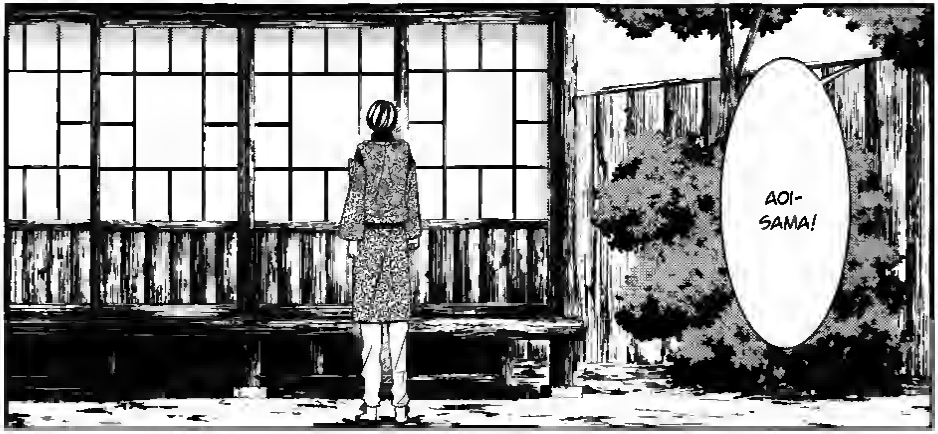
I'M BEGGING YOU, AOI-KUN! IT'S REALLY THE LAST THING I WILL ASK YOU! BUT PLEASE, JUST FOR A SECOND, SMILE!!
IF YOU CAN'T, WE CAN'T MOVE ON!!

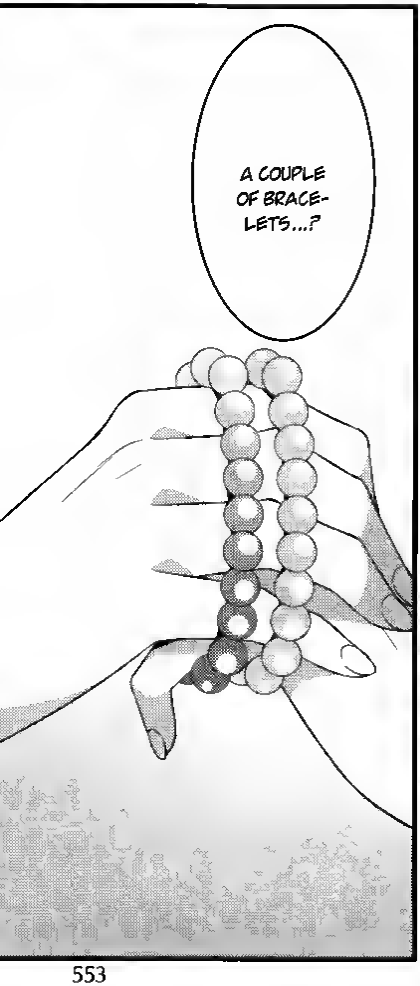

THAT'S RIGHT!
BUT WHAT'S AMAZING ABOUT AOI-KUN IS THAT EVEN IF HE DOESN'T MOVE HIS MOUTH, HE IS NOT EXPRESSIONLESS.
YOU CAN TELL WHEN HE IS HAPPY OR PLEASED.


SUZU IS HAVING A HARD TIME...
LOOKS LIKE IT.

DOES AOI-KUN LAUGH AT HOME?
NO, HE IS THE SAME BOTH AT HOME AND AT SCHOOL.
I SEE...

WHEN DID AOI-SAMA STOP SMILING?
COME TO THINK OF IT...
HE WASN'T A PERSON WHO SMILED A LOT FROM THE START, BUT HE SMILED MORE OFTEN.
SINCE WHEN...?


AOI-SAMA!


A COUPLE OF BRACE-LETS...?

LOOK AT THIS!
WHAT IS IT, KAZUHA?

SINCE THERE ARE TWO, LET'S EACH HAVE ONE!
A MERCHANT GAVE THEM TO ME IN EXCHANGE FOR SOME GOODS!
YEAH.
WE HAVE MATCHING BRACE-LETS!

THAT'S RIGHT.
WE HAVE MATCHING BRACE-LETS!
PFT!
WE HAVE MATCHING BRACE LETS!!

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT
WE HAVE MATCHING BRACE-LETS!

SO-SORRY! I FELL ASLEEP!?
DON'T WORRY.
ｶﾀｯ
WAH!?
I... WAS SMILING?
YES!
YOU WERE SMILING WHILE SLEEPING SO I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE HAVING A NICE DREAM, SO I COULDN'T WAKE YOU UP.

YES.
SORRY...
DID YOU WAKE UP, KAZUHA?
LET'S GET GOING.
I TRIED TO.
BUT EVEN IF I SHOOK YOU, YOU DIDN'T WAKE UP
WHY DIDN'T YOU WAKE ME UP, AOI-SAMA?
DID YOU SEE ME SMILING?
YES, DID YOU HAVE A FUN DREAM?
.....
IT'S SO EMBARRASSING...

スルッ
OH, THAT'S RIGHT, AOI-SAMA
I FIXED IT.
!!!
AH, THANK YOU.
YOU WERE FAST.
...WE HAVE MATCHING BRACELETS, AOI-SAMA.
?
THAT'S RIGHT.

.....
WE HAVE MATCHING BRACE-LETS!

YES.
THAT'S RIGHT.
WE HAVE MATCHING BRACE-LETS!

IT WAS JUST AS YOU SAID.
WE HAVE TO TARGET
KAGURAGI FUTABA.
TO BE CONTINUED.
DID YOU WAIT LONG?
A new enemy who targets Futaba...!?
THANK YOU FOR WAITING.

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THE NAME OF THE FLOWER PAINTED IN DARKNESS IS...
終焉のエリュシオン
The End of Elysion
CHAPTER 10. A SELF-ESTEEM CAGE
蓮見ナツメ

THE MYSTERIOUS MAN AND TSUGUMI...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
YOU SAID TO STOP TREATING YOU LIKE A CHILD.

KANATA-KUN, YOU ARE ALWAYS SO SMALL AND CUTE!
CUT IT OUT.
STOP TREATING ME LIKE A CHILD!!
DO YOU WANT ME TO LIFT YOU UP?
ひょっ

OUCH!
ぴょん

COME HERE.
WELL DONE.

HAHAHA
WELL, YOU'RE RIGHT.
TCH...
WHOSE FAULT DO YOU THINK IT IS?

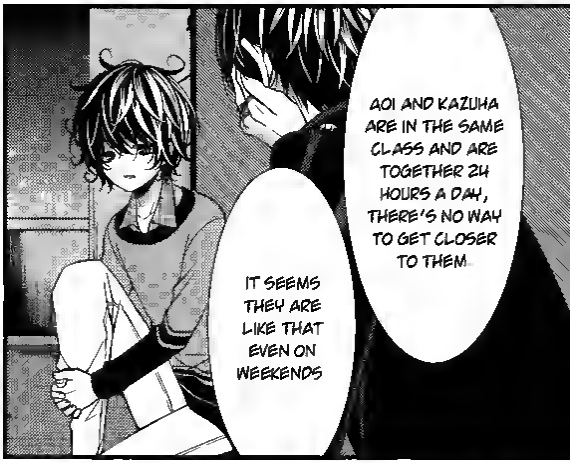
GROSS.

EH?
I DON'T WANT TO BE TOLD THAT BY SOMEONE LIKE YOU WHO IS KEEPING A YOGUE INSIDE HIS BODY

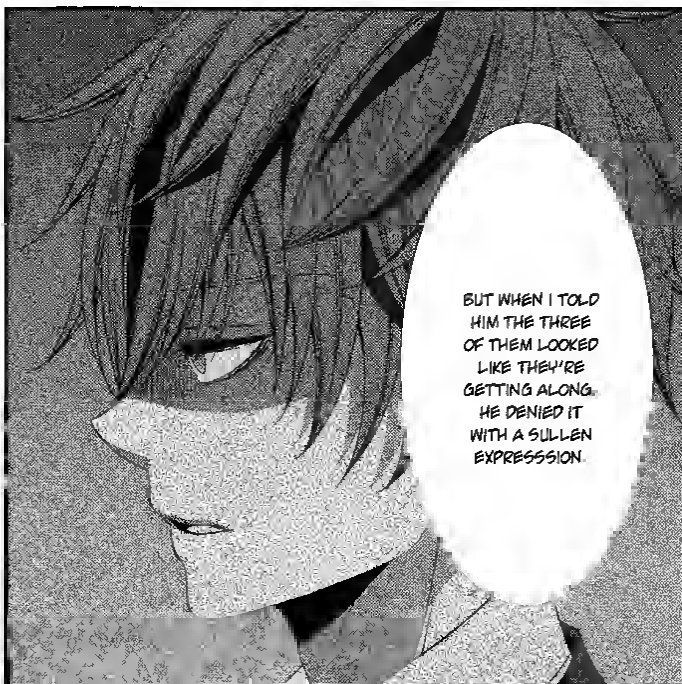
COME ON.
ONCE AGAIN,
WOULD YOU TELL ME WHAT HAP-PENED?
IT'S THE YOGUE WHO COME TO ME ASKING ME TO BE ONE WITH THEM. TO ABSORB THEM.
IT CAN'T BE HELPED.

THERE'S NOT MUCH TO TELL, IT'S JUST AS YOU'VE HEARD.

AND FUTABA TOO ALWAYS STICKS TO THEM, SO AT FIRST I COULDN'T TELL.


AOI AND KAZUHA ARE IN THE SAME CLASS AND ARE TOGETHER 24 HOURS A DAY, THERE'S NO WAY TO GET CLOSER TO THEM.
IT SEEMS THEY ARE LIKE THAT EVEN ON WEEKENDS

SU—
WELL, NO WONDER.


BUT WHEN I TOLD HIM THE THREE OF THEM LOOKED LIKE THEY'RE GETTING ALONG, HE DENIED IT WITH A SULLEN EXPRESSSION.

AOI-SAMA AND KAZUHA-SAMA ARE WORSHIPED, SO HE IS THE ONLY ONE HIS AGE THERE WHO IS TREATED DIFFERENTLY.
WHAT'S MORE, IT'S A SITUATION HE CANNOT CHANGE NO MATTER HOW HARD HE TRIES.
IN THAT HOUSE, ALL WARRIORS APART FROM AOI AND KAZUHA ARE NOT TREATED AS HUMANS,
BUT AS MERE PAWNS.
DON'T TELL ME YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT YOURSELF?
THAT'S WHY YOU WANT TO GET YOUR REVENGE AGAINST THE KAGURAGI FAMILY?
HOW STUPID.

ドサッ

BAM
TAKE THAT BACK, WOULD YOU?
I REALLY HATE BEING TAKEN LIGHTLY BY OTHERS.

I JUST WANT TO DESTROY EVERY-THING.
NOT JUST THE KAGURAGI FAMILY
BUT THE WHOLE WORLD.
SO DON'T EVER SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT AGAIN.
DO YOU UNDER-STAND?
フクッ

A YOGUE WON'T DIE UNLESS YOU CUT OFF ITS HEAD OR CUT IT IN HALF, SO THIS KIND OF SCRATCH WILL HEAL IN NO TIME.
YOU'LL BE FINE, YOU'LL BE FINE.
ぐぃっ

WELL THEN, PAIN, PAIN GO AWAY.
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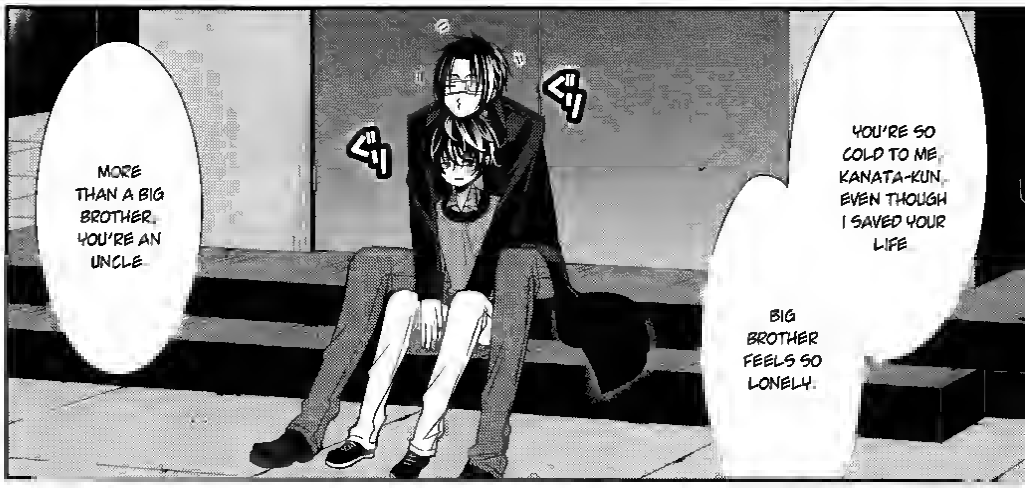
MORE THAN A BIG BROTHER. YOU'RE AN UNCLE.
YOU'RE SO COLD TO ME, KANATA-KUN, EVEN THOUGH I SAVED YOUR LIFE.
BIG BROTHER FEELS SO LONELY.
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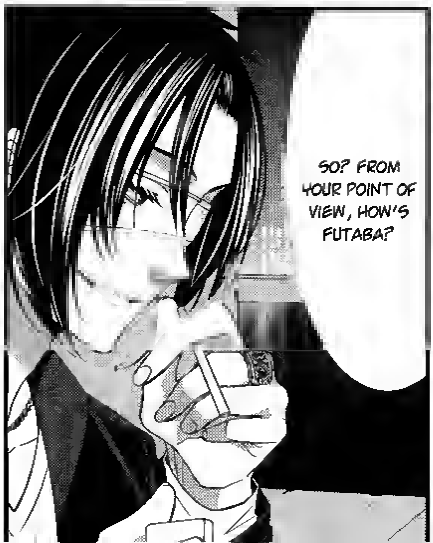
ぐい


SO? FROM YOUR POINT OF VIEW, HOW'S FUTABA?

WHAT?
NOTHING.
ゆうくん

I SEE.
HIS SELF-ESTEEM IS VERY LOW.
WELL, HE...
HE IS GOOD BOTH AT STUDYING AND SPORTS AND HE IS GOOD AT TAKING CARE OF OTHERS, SO EVERYBODY LIKES HIM,
BUT WHEN I HONESTLY TOLD HIM I THOUGHT HE WAS AWE-SOME...
HE REPLIED THAT EVEN IF HE COULD DO THAT MUCH, THERE WAS NO POINT.
AFTER LISTENING TO WHAT YOU JUST SAID, EVERYTHING MAKES SENSE

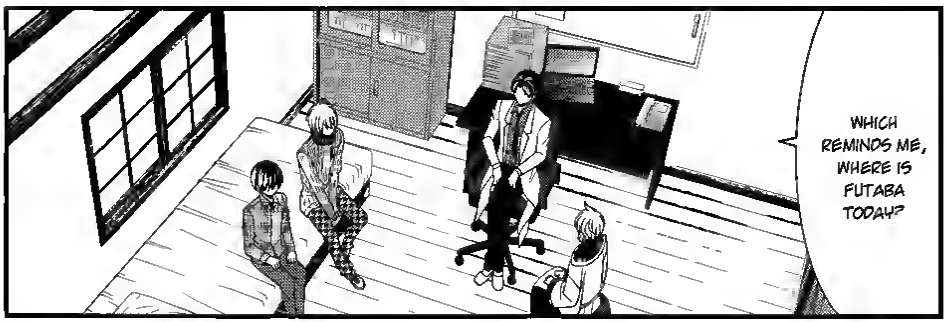
.. AREN'T YOU EMPATHIZING WITH HIM A BIT TOO MUCH?
EVEN THOUGH HE IS SUCH A GOOD GUY.
IT'S WONDERFUL THAT YOU EMPATHIZE WITH HIM,
SINCE HE IS YOUR FIRST FRIEND, YOU SHOULD TREASURE HIM.
OF COURSE NOT...!
WELL, IT'S OBVIOUS THAT FUTABA WOULD BE SUCH A PESSIMISTIC PERSON.
NOT ONLY HE IS TREATED BADLY BY THE KAGURAGI FAMILY, BUT HIS MOTHER IS TOTALLY A AOI AND KAZUHA WORSHIPER AND A HYSTERICAL AND ANNOYING OLD WOMAN.
SHE IS THE TYPE TO TELL HIS OWN SON THAT HE IS NOT NEEDED IF HE IS NOT AOI.
THAT'S WHY,
LET'S SAVE HIM

LET'S FREE HIM FROM THAT HOUSE.
MAKE KUGURAGI FUTABA GET TO OUR SIDE.

DOCTOR, LOOK AT THIS!
I FINISHED THE DRESS!!
AHA HAHA HAHA HAHA HA!!

MASA-CHIKA, DO YOU HAVE A MINUTE?
SINCE IT'S FOR THE HEROINE ROLE, I DID IT WITH A LOT OF CARE!
I STARTED FROM THE PATTERN PAPER OF AOI-SAMA!
AWESOME! IT'S CLOSE TO PERFECTION!
AH, HARUOMI-SAN

ARE YOU AN IDIOT OR WHAT?
OH, YOU'RE SUCH A BEAUTIFUL LADY.
WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME YOUR NAME?


WHICH REMINDS ME, WHERE IS FUTABA TODAY?

THAT SOUNDS LIKE GOOD NEWS.
SINCE HE ALWAYS STICKED TOGETHER TO YOU TWO.
HIS NAME IS TSUGUMI AND HE'S REALLY A GOOD BOY!
HE IS HANGING OUT WITH A FRIEND FROM SCHOOL.
EH!? THAT'S UNUSUAL.

OH, THERE'S ONLY ONE WEEK LEFT TO THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL, RIGHT?
HAVE YOU ALREADY LEARNED ALL YOUR LINES?
THERE ARE SOME LINES I'M STILL NOT SURE, BUT IN GENERAL I'VE LEARNED THEM ALL.
WELL, YOU HAVE A RELIABLE PRINCE RIGHT BESIDE YOU, SO EVEN IF YOU MISS ONE OR TWO LINES, EVERYTHING WILL BE ALRIGHT.
HA HA HA!

HERE I GO.

WILL YOU BE ALRIGHT WITH SUCH AN EXPRESSIONLESS PRINCESS?
IT WAS AN ORIGINAL STORY, RIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT.
OH, LISTEN, LATELY AOI-SAMA HAS LEARNED HOW TO SMILE!

IS THAT SO? SMILE FOR ME THEN.

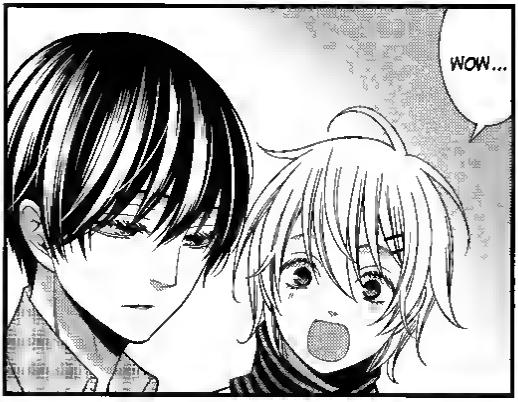
ガキン
HEY, THAT SOUND IS AT THE LEVEL WHERE IT WOULDN'T BE STRANGE IF SOME BONES WERE BROKEN.

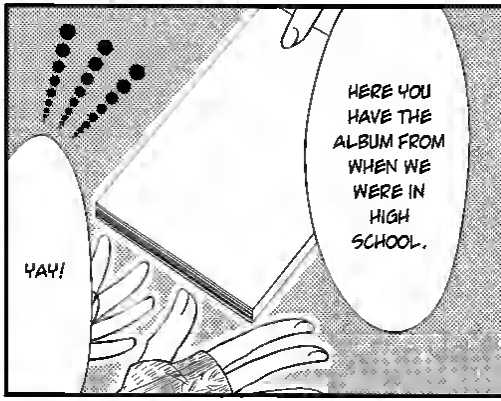
YEAH, WELL.
WHAT DID YOU DO AT THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL?
HARUOMI-SAN AND THE DOCTOR WHERE CLASS-MATES, RIGHT?
THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL, SO NOS-TALGIC.

IT SOUNDS SO APPEALING.
IT WAS REALLY POPULAR.
WE DID A BUNCH OF THINGS, BUT THE BEST ONE WAS THE REAL CANDY HOUSE.
OHHH!
EVERYTHING WAS MADE OF CHOCOLATE OR WAFER OR THINGS LIKE THAT AND IT WAS BIG ENOUGH FOR A PERSON TO ENTER.
IN THE END WE ATE IT TOGETHER.

HOW WERE YOUR AND THE DOCTOR'S SCHOOL-LIFE, HARUOMI-SAN?
DO YOU WANT TO SEE A PIC-TURE?
I WANT!
OKAY, THEN WAIT A MINUTE I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR IT.
WELL, MASACHIKA WAS THE SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT AND ALWAYS HAD THE BEST GRADES, SO HE STOOD OUT.
EH~! AS EXPECTED OF THE DOCTOR!
I ALWAYS GOT FAILING MARKS AND SKIPPED SUPPLEMENTARY LESSONS, SO MASACHIKA FREQUENTLY HIT MY HEAD WITH HIS SHOES.
WERE YOU ALSO A GOOD STUDENT, HARUOMI?
NO, NOT AT ALL.

SINCE THE MOMENT I WAS BORN IT WAS ALREADY DECIDED I WAS GOING TO BE THE GUARDIAN OF THE KEYS OF THE KAGURAGI FAMILY, SO WHAT'S THE POINT IN STUDYING?
SHUT UP, YOU USE-LESS ADULT.
I THINK YOU ALREADY KNOW, BUT DON'T FOLLOW HIS EXAMPLE.
HE IS ROTTEN TO THE CORE.
AH, DOCTOR


WOW...

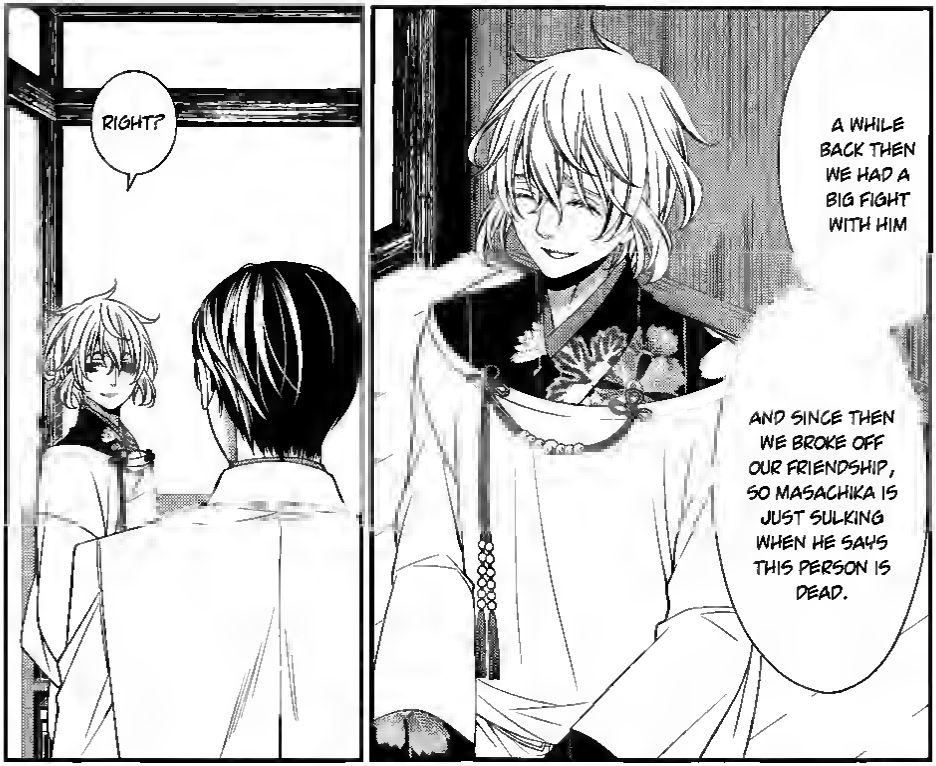

HERE YOU HAVE THE ALBUM FROM WHEN WE WERE IN HIGH SCHOOL.
YAY!

IT HAS AN INNOCENT FEELING TO IT.
YOU LOOK SO YOUNG!

OH! THE CANDY HOUSE!
IT LOOKS AWE-SOME!
THIS PERSON IS IN A LOT OF PHOTOS TOGETHER WITH YOU TWO.
WERE YOU THREE GOOD FRIENDS?

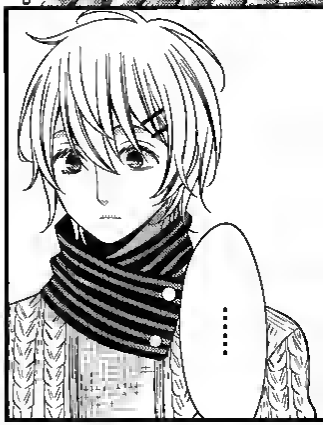
HE IS NOT A PERSON FROM THE KAGURAGI FAMILY, IS HE?

HE IS DEAD.
EH...
THAT'S A LIE.
IT WAS A LIE!?

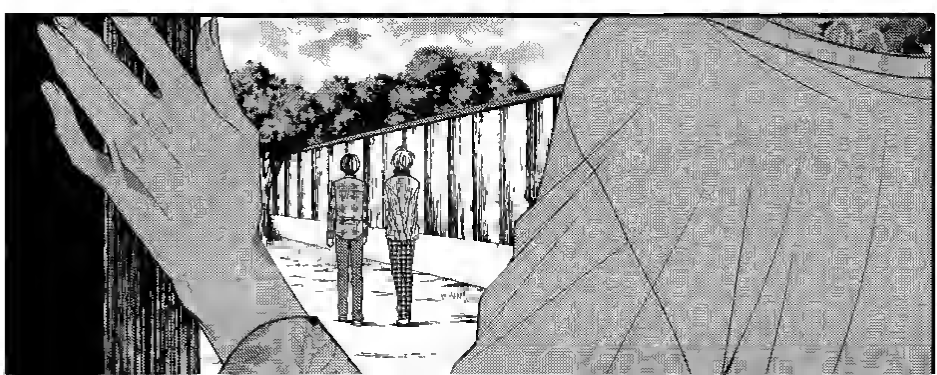

RIGHT?
A WHILE BACK THEN WE HAD A BIG FIGHT WITH HIM
AND SINCE THEN WE BROKE OFF OUR FRIENDSHIP, SO MASACHIKA IS JUST SULKING WHEN HE SAYS THIS PERSON IS DEAD.

MASACHIKA.

AOI-SAMA, THE PERSON FROM THE PHOTOS RIGHT NOW, DON'T YOU FEEL THAT YOU'VE SEEN HIM SOMEWHERE?
YOU FEEL SO TOO?
ME TOO, I HAVE THE FEELING I SAW HIM BEFORE.


.....

BUT SINCE HE WAS FRIEND OF THOSE TWO, MAYBE HE CAME HERE TO VISIT THEM.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
BUT SINCE NEITHER OF US CAN REMEMBER HIM, THAT MEANS HE IS PROBABLY NOT PART OF THE KAGURAGI FAMILY.



IORI...
That man's identity...
TO BE CONTINUED.

AQUA SCANS
PRESENTS
The End of Elysion - c.11
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TL: EXIAHT
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THE UNVEILING OF A SECRET BALL...?
終焉のエリュシオン
The End of Elysion
CHAPTER 11. AHEAD OF THAT SMILE
蓮見ナツメ

IN THE KAGURAGI RESIDENCE.
THAT IS ALL.
THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT A SECOND KING HAS BEEN BORN IN THE PRESENT.
FOR THIS REASON, I DECIDED TO CALL REINFORCEMENTS FROM THE BRANCH FAMILIES.
TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE WORST CASE SCENARIO, I WOULD LIKE TO INCREASE OUR FIGHTING POWER.

DO YOU REALLY THINK SOMEONE FROM A BRANCH FAMILY CAN BE USEFUL?
THE MAIN FAMILY HAS A PRIDE OF ITS OWN, HOW CAN WE LOWER OUR HEADS TO THE BRANCH FAMILIES?
...DON'T SAY AN-OTHER WORD.
LET ME WARN YOU. I DO NOT THINK ANYONE FACING THIS EMERGENCY WOULD CARE ABOUT SOMETHING AS FOOLISH AS FAMILY HIERARCHY.
WELL, WE HAVE AOI-SAMA AND KAZUHA-SAMA, SO WE WILL BE FINE.
THAT IS RIGHT. EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE, IF WE HAVE AOI-SAMA.
THERE IS NOTHING TO FEAR, NOT EVEN THE KING.

IF WE CAN GATHER ALL THE PIECES OF SUCH, THEN AOI-SAMA CAN DO THE REST.
THAT IS RIGHT, AS LONG AS WE HAVE AOI-SAMA...
THEY ARE TREATING HIM AS IF HE IS A GOD.
...IDOLIZING HIM AFTER HE SEALED THE KING,
IGNORING WHAT HE FEELS OR THINGS, WORSHIPPING HIM LIKE A GOD.
I WONDER WHAT A GOD WOULD THINK, LOOKING AT THESE FOOLISH HUMANS...

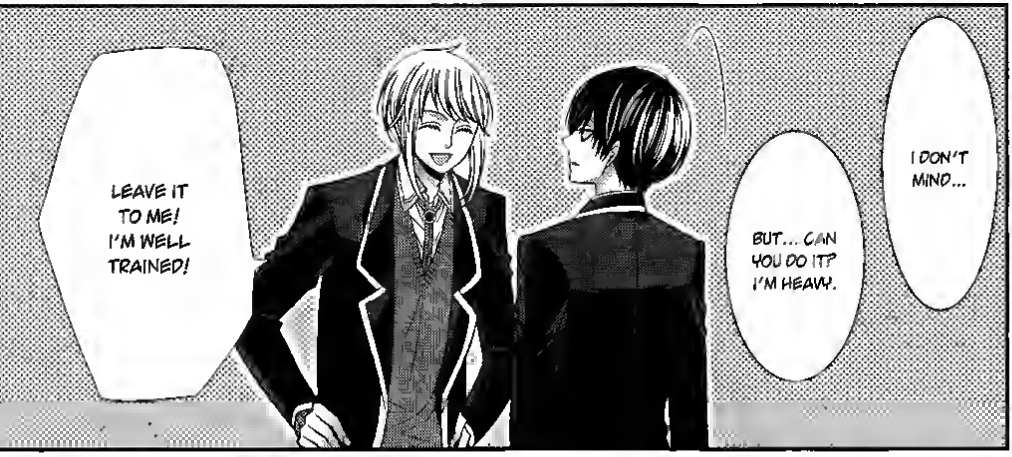
THE DAY BEFORE THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL.
ざわざわ
WELL, SINCE THERE'S STILL TIME BEFORE THE REHEARSAL ON STAGE, LET'S CHECK EVERYTHING ONE LAST TIME!
OKAY~!
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO TOMORROW!
WHAT ABOUT YOU, PRINCESS?
ARE YOU READY?

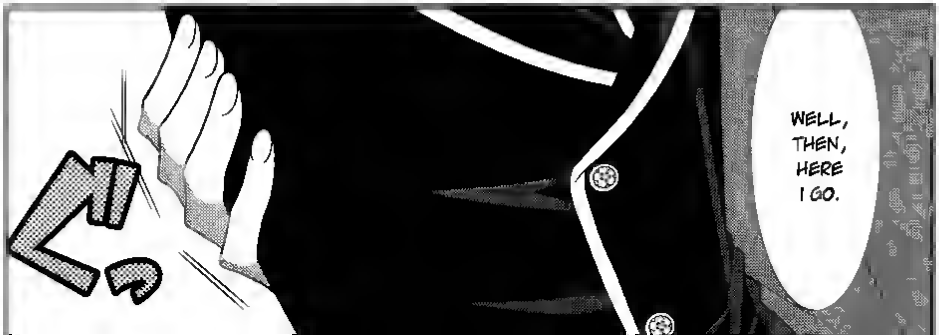
YOU LOOK UNWELL, PRINCESS!
I AM.
I'LL PROTECT YOU NO MATTER WHAT, PRINCESS!
THERE'S NO NEED TO BE SO NERVOUS,
RINKO-CHAN WILL BE BACKING YOU UP AND THE REST OF US WILL BE THERE IN THE BACK-STAGE.
THAT'S RIGHT!
COME ON, COME ON. LET'S GO ON WITH THE PREPARA-TIONS.
ほ

AND YOU'VE ALSO MEMORIZED ALL YOUR LINES BY HEART, RIGHT, PRINCESS?
AND EVEN THOUGH ACTING IS NOT YOUR FORTE, THE PRINCESS ROLE FITS YOU PERFECTLY.
YEAH, WHILE READING THE SCRIPT, I COULDN'T PICTURE ANYONE BUT AOI-SAMA DOING THE PRINCESS ROLE.
YEAH, ME NEITHER.
WELL, I DID WRITE THE SCRIPT AFTER WE DECIDED ON AOI-KUN AS THE PRINCESS, SO OF COURSE!
DIDN'T I SAY SO? THAT I'D WRITE IT TO FIT HIM?
THAT'S WHY I'M BEGGING YOU TO WORK HARD ON THE LAST PART, AOI-KUN! THAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT PART!
DON'T WORRY! I LEARNED HOW TO SMILE!
TO LEARN HOW TO SMILE SOUNDS A LITTLE WEIRD...
MMM... TO TELL THE TRUTH, I WOULD HAVE LIKED TO DO A LITTLE MORE ABOUT THE PRODUCTION...

COME TO THINK OF IT, TODAY YOU'RE WEARING THE FULL MALE UNIFORM, RINKO-CHAN. THAT'S NEW!
I DO SO ONCE IN A WHILE! EVERYBODY REQUESTS ME TO DO SO, BUT WHEN I GO TO THE TOILET WEARING THIS UNIFORM OUTSIDE SCHOOL, I LOOK LIKE A PERVERT!
CERTAINLY, THEY'LL PROBABLY BE SURPRISED.
TO BEGIN WITH, WHY DO YOU OWN A MALE UNIFORM?
IT WAS A PRESENT!
UNIFORMS ARE EXPENSIVE, RIGHT?
IF SOMEONE HAD SPENT ALL THAT MONEY ON ME, IT'LL BE RUDE OF ME NOT TO USE IT!
AND EVEN THOUGH I HADN'T TOLD THEM MY HEIGHT OR WEIGHT, THE SIZE IS PERFECT! IT WAS REALLY SURPRISING!
I WONDER IF IT'S OKAY TO BE ONLY SURPRISED...

HEY, MUNAKATA.
WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO CARRY THE PRINCESS WITH YOUR ARMS?
THE PRINCESS?
I THINK I CAN!
WELL THEN, COULD YOU GIVE IT A SHOT?
IF THAT'S OKAY, AOI-KUN?


I DON'T MIND...
BUT... CAN YOU DO IT? I'M HEAVY.
LEAVE IT TO ME! I'M WELL TRAINED!


WELL, THEN, HERE I GO.
ぐっ

OH! GREAT!
SO... SO COOL...!
OH?! EVEN THOUGH YOU LOOK SO DELICATE, YOU WEIGH QUITE A BIT, PRINCESS. IS IT BECAUSE OF YOUR MUSCLES, I WONDER?
I GUESS.
I NEVER GAVE IT MUCH OF A THOUGHT...

RIGHT! AND IT'S EVEN MORE PERFECT IF MUNAKATA DOES IT!
THAT'S EVERY GIRL'S DREAM!
OKAY! THANKS!
LET'S ADD A SCENE WHERE THE PRINCESS GETS CARRIED IN THE PRINCE'S ARMS SOMEWHERE!
IT'S PRETTY GREAT, ISN'T IT? AS A GUY, YOU'LL HARDLY EVER GET THE CHANCE TO BE CARRIED LIKE THIS.
EVEN THOUGH I'M DOING THE CARRYING.
I SEE, SO THAT'S WHAT CARRYING A PRINCESS FEELS LIKE.
HUH?
CAN I TRY IT?

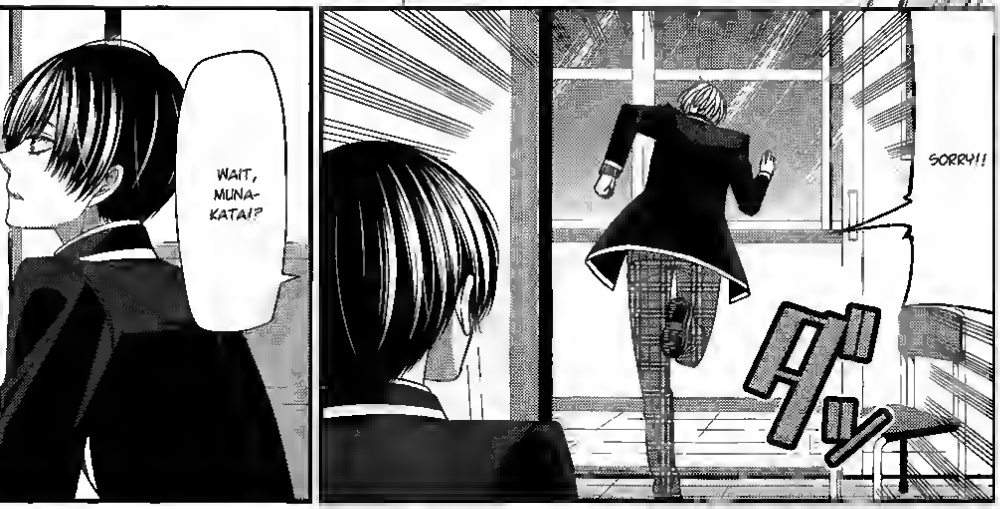
I SEE. SO IT FEELS LIKE THIS...
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE SO TALL, YOU'RE NOT HEAVY AT ALL.
I FEEL BAD OF MAKING A GIRL WORK SO MUCH.
IF ONLY THERE WAS A WAY FOR ME TO HELP OUT...

STAFF
?
MUNA-KATA...?
ストン
……?
HEY MU-NAKATA, COULD YOU TAKE A LOOK AT THIS?
YES, WHAT IS IT!?

すぅ
I CAN'T DECIDE WHICH HAIRPIN TO USE.
THEY ARE ALL SO GORGEOUS!
I DON'T WANT IT TO BE TOO SHOWY,
BUT IT CAN'T BE LAME EITHER.
TO MATCH WITH THE DRESS, MAYBE THE WHITE ONES WILL FIT BETTER? BUT IT'S DIFFICULT TO DISCARD THE RED ONES...
WHAT ABOUT THIS ONE?
DO YOU THINK SO?
IT FITS OUR BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS.
.....

LOOK.
HUH?
I THINK IT FITS YOU BETTER.
YOU'RE CUTE, AREN'T YOU?

!?
MUNA-KATA..?
EH!? WHAT HAPPENED ALL OF A SUDDEN!?


WAIT, MUNA-KATA!?
SORRY!!
ダッ

WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?
AH, AOI-KUN TOO?

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING AFTER ME!?
WELL, SINCE YOU STARTED RUNNING ALL OF A SUDDEN, I JUST WENT WITH THE FLOW.
WOULD YOU PLEASE NOT RUN AFTER ME JUST BECAUSE !?
だだだだだだだだだだだだ

WHY COULD YOU KEEP UP WITH ME, PRINCESS?
YOU'RE NOT EVEN OUT OF BREATH...
I THOUGHT I WAS A FAST RUNNER...
SORRY, BUT I'M PRETTY USED TO RUNNING
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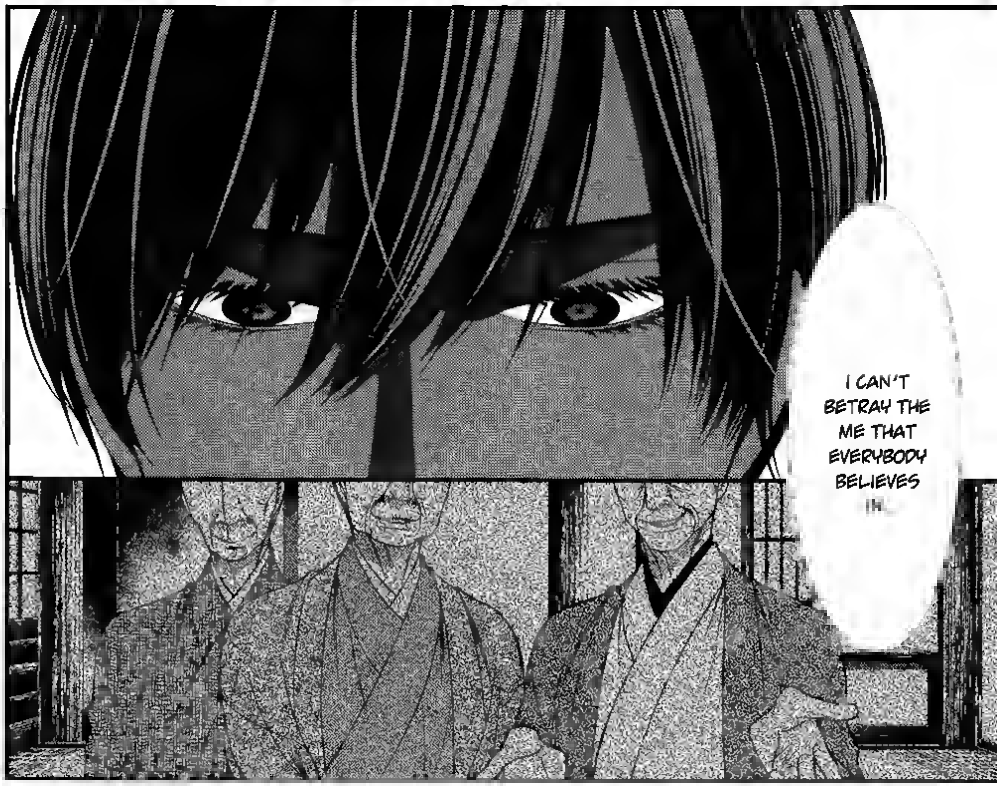
PLEASE TELL ME IF I WAS RUDE JUST THEN.
DID I SOMEHOW OFFEND YOU?
... YOU DIDN'T OFFEND ME...
MAYBE I SHOULD'VE WAITED FOR YOUR PERMISSION BEFORE I TRIED TO CARRY YOU?
THINKING ABOUT IT NOW, THAT WAS VERY RUDE OF ME TO TREAT A GIRL LIKE THAT...
YOU'RE WRONG, THAT KIND OF STUFF IS...!
"THAT KIND OF STUFF"?

OKAY, MY BAD.
I'LL EXPLAIN PROPERLY.
はぁ
……
UM... PLEASE DON'T TREAT ME LIKE A GIRL.
I'M NOT USED TO IT.
WHY CAN'T I TREAT A GIRL AS A GIRL?
STOP IT!
NORMALLY NOBODY WOULD TREAT A PERSON WHO LOOKS LIKE ME AS A GIRL!

IT'S A BIT EMBARRASSING TO SAY THIS MYSELF, BUT EVEN SINCE I WAS SMALL PEOPLE ALWAYS EXPECTED ME TO BE A "COOL BOY."
BUT SINCE I WAS ALWAYS TREATED AS A BOY, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO IF I'M SUDDENLY TREATED AS A GIRL.
I'VE GROWN USED TO IT AND I DON'T MIND IT SINCE IT MAKES EVERYONE HAPPY.
I DON'T WANT TO START TREMBLING LIKE I DID TODAY AND DESTROY THE IMAGE OF MUNAKATA RINKO THAT EVERYONE HAS.
EVEN AS I'M SAYING THIS, YOU'D PROBABLY WON'T UNDERSTAND...
I UNDERSTAND.
DON'T WORRY...

EVEN IF WHAT EVERYBODY EXPECTS OF ME IS NO LONGER WITHIN MY ABILITY, I HAVE TO CONTINUE PERFORMING THAT IDEAL.


I CAN'T BETRAY THE ME THAT EVERYBODY BELIEVES IN.

WELL, LET'S HEAD BACK TO THE CLASS-ROOM.
PLUS IT'S NOT GOOD SITTING ON THE COLD CORRIDOR FOR SO LONG; AS A GIRL YOU SHOULD TAKE BETTER CARE OF YOURSELF.
YES, PLEASE.
SORRY, I'M JUST A CLUELESS PERSON.
I'LL TRY NOT TO TREAT YOU LIKE A GIRL FROM NOW ON.
WHAT-EVER.
THAT'S HOW YOU ARE, PRIN-CESS.
SORRY.
COME ON!
WELL!
THANKS FOR WOR-RYING ABOUT ME.

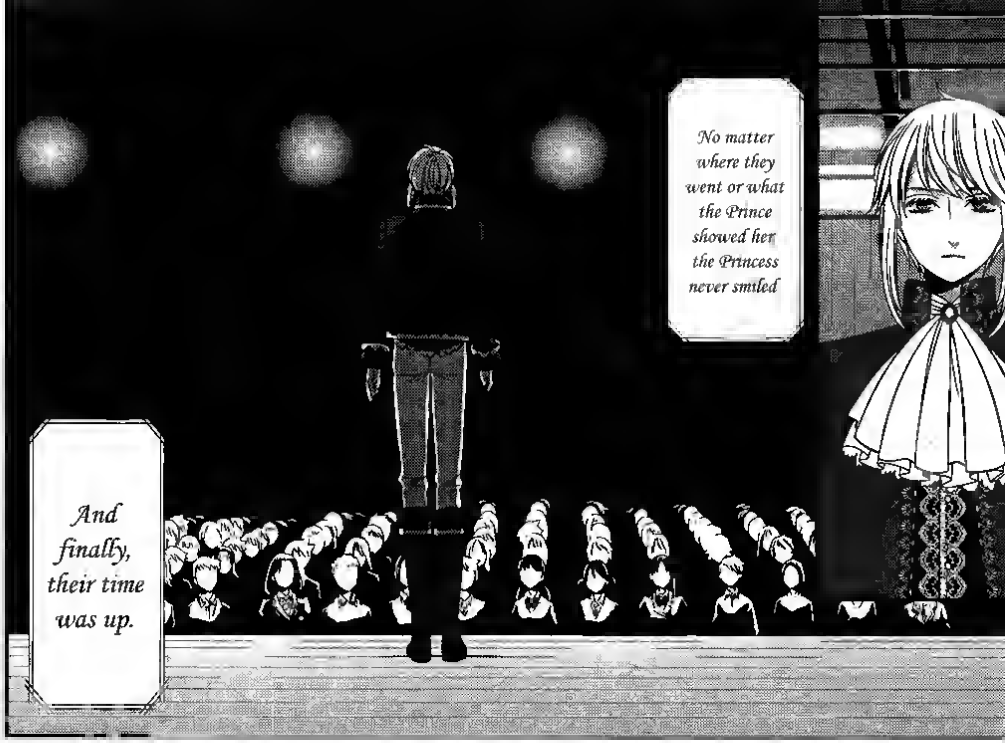
LET'S MAKE THE PLAY A BIG HIT!
LET'S GIVE IT OUR BEST, PRINCESS.
YEAH.

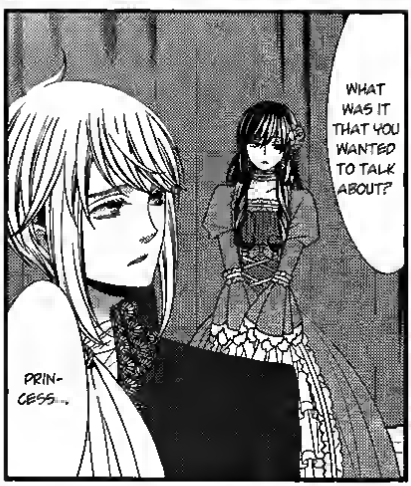
THE DAY OF THE CUL-TURAL FESTI-VAL.
IT'S HERE AT LAST
I'M SO NERVOUS
WELL.
I WILL GO VISIT THE PRINCESS THAT LIVES IN THAT CASTLE.
キャーッ!

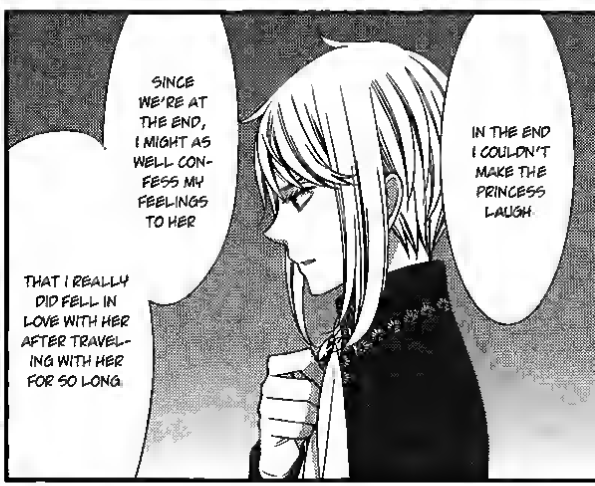
PRINCESS, THIS WAY.
WHAT AN ACCLAMATION!
MUNAKATA IS AWESOME!
EH...
WASN'T THE PRINCESS SUPPOSED TO BE PLAYED BY A BOY?
AOI-SAMA IS POPULAR TOO!
HE IS SO BEAUTIFUL...
EH, THEN THAT'S A BOY? NO WAY!!
THIS STORY THAT SUZUCHAN WROTE REALLY FITS AOI-SAMA AND RINKO.

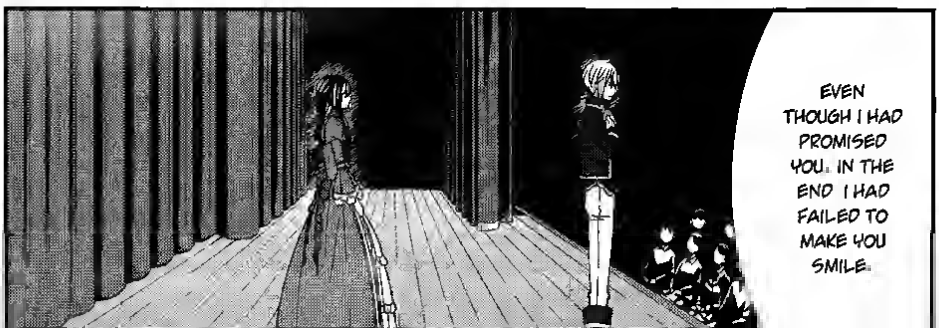
A STORY ABOUT A PRINCESS WHO NEVER SMILED AND A PRINCE WHO WOULD TRAVEL AROUND THE WORLD SHOWING HER ALL THE FUN THINGS TO TRY MAKE HER LAUGH.

あはははっ
But as the times went by...


No matter where they went or what the Prince showed her the Princess never smiled
And finally, their time was up.


WHAT WAS IT THAT YOU WANTED TO TALK ABOUT?
PRIN-CESS...

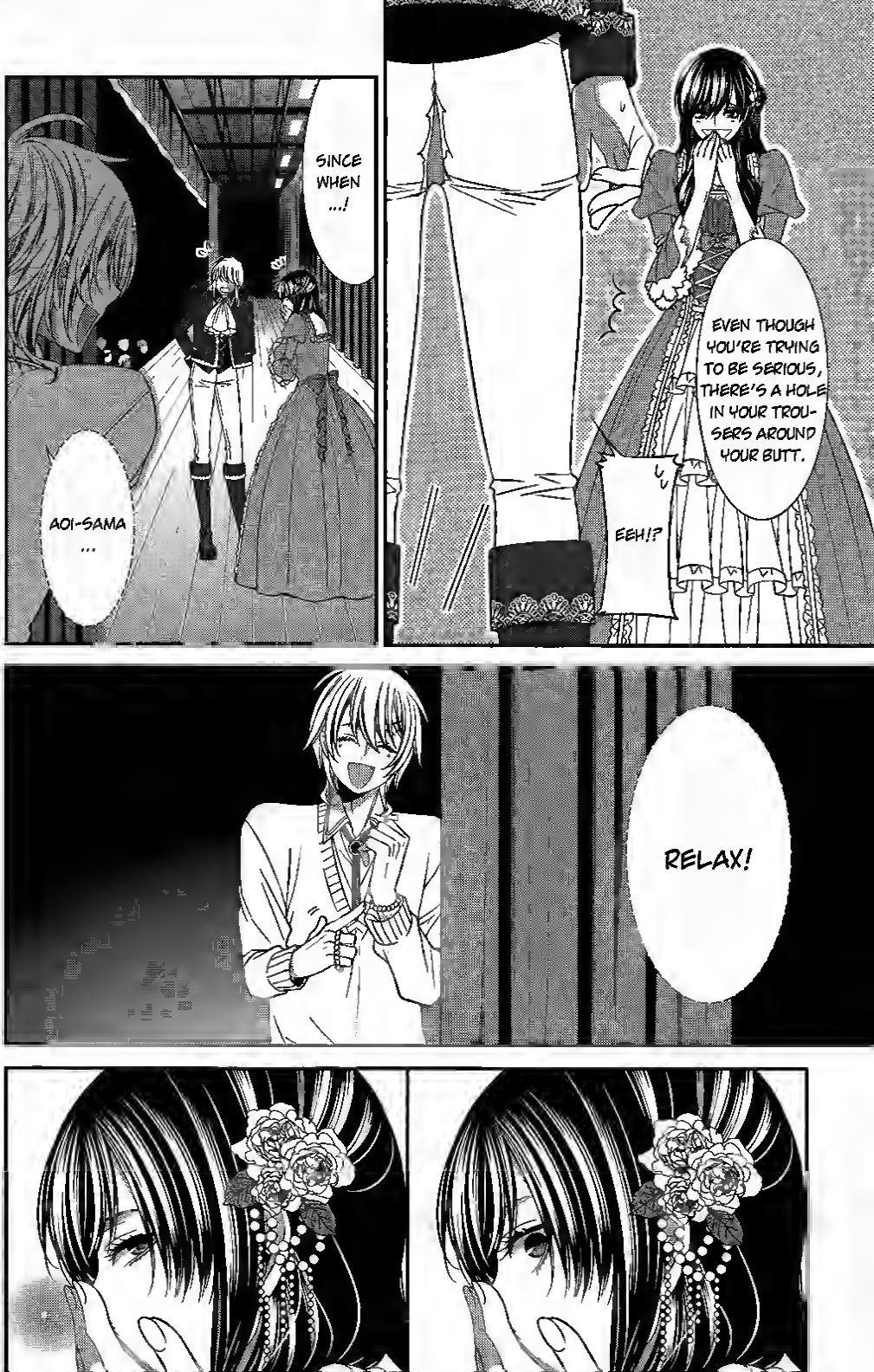

SINCE WE'RE AT THE END, I MIGHT AS WELL CON-FESS MY FEELINGS TO HER
THAT I REALLY DID FELL IN LOVE WITH HER AFTER TRAVEL-ING WITH HER FOR SO LONG.
IN THE END I COULDN'T MAKE THE PRINCESS LAUGH.


EVEN THOUGH I HAD PROMISED YOU. IN THE END I HAD FAILED TO MAKE YOU SMILE.

PRIN-
CESS?
HEHE.

ドキン
PFT.
EVEN
SO, I
REALLY
LOVE--

THE
PRINCESS
SMILE IS SO
SCARY!!
SORRY,
IT WAS SO
FUNNY.


SINCE WHEN ...!
AOI-SAMA ...
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE TRYING TO BE SERIOUS, THERE'S A HOLE IN YOUR TROUSERS AROUND YOUR BUTT.
EEH!?
RELAX!

WHEN WE TRAVELED TOGETHER, YOU FILLED MY HEART WITH SO MUCH HAPPI-NESS.
WILL YOU STAY BY MY SIDE FOREVER?
ざわ....

I WANT TO BE WITH YOU, FOR-EVER!
YES, OF COURSE!
パン
ペコ
わーっ
パチパチパチパチ

HEHEHE HEHE~
あーーーっ!!
WE GOT THE TICK-ETS FOR ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT YAKI-NIKU!!
LET'S GO TO CEL-EBRATE!
WE DID IT, AOI-SAMA.
YEAH.

THE PLAY WAS REALLY INTEREST-ING! YOU DID A GOOD JOB!
DID YOU WATCH IT?

AOI-SAMA!
FUTABA

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE AN AFTER PARTY WITH THE CLASS AFTER THIS
OH, RIGHT! THE YAKINIKU, WASN'T IT?

ARE YOU DONE?
YEAH, WE DID AN EXHIBITION, SO WE FINISHED TIDYING UP A LONG WHILE AGO.
IT WAS LIKE HAVING FREE TIME ALL DAY LONG

THEN I'M GOING! SEE YOU LATER.

たったった
I WAS ABOUT TO ASK HIM IF HE WANTED TO COME WITH US...
MAYBE HIS CLASS IS HOLDING AN AFTER-PARTY AS WELL.
YEAH, MAYBE.
SORRY, DID YOU WAIT?
NO AT ALL.

EH? OF COURSE NOT!
I'M HAPPY!
WELL,
IT'S SO UNUSUAL FOR YOU TO ASK ME OUT!
AM I TROU-BLING YOU?
UM...
I SEE...
ほっ

EVEN NOW I REMEMBER THIS MOMENT.

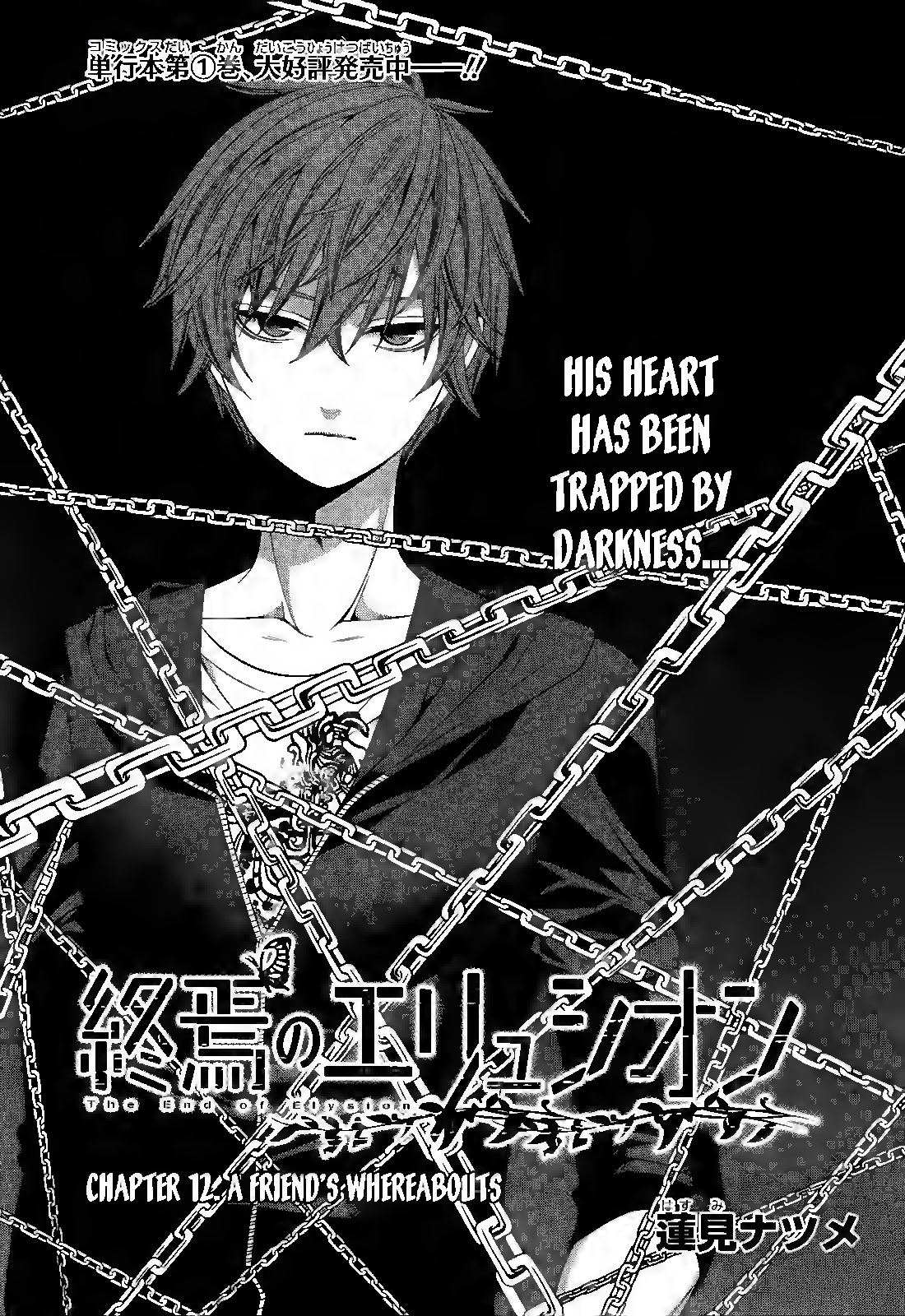
LOOKING BACK TO THAT TIME,

MAYBE I COULD HAVE PREVENTED IT FROM HAPPENING.

The distance between them and Futaba is widening...

TO BE CONTINUED.

コミックス第1巻、大好評発売中――!!

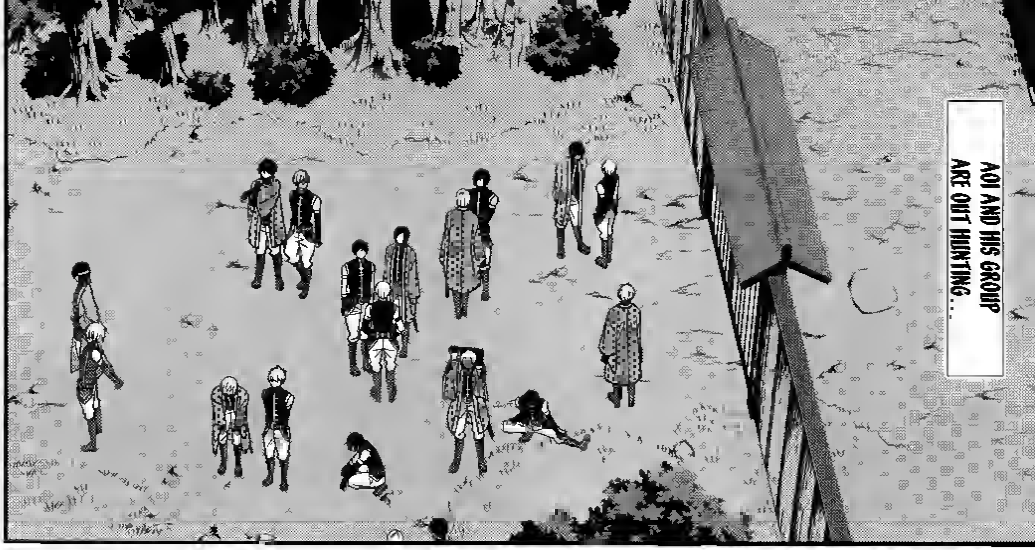


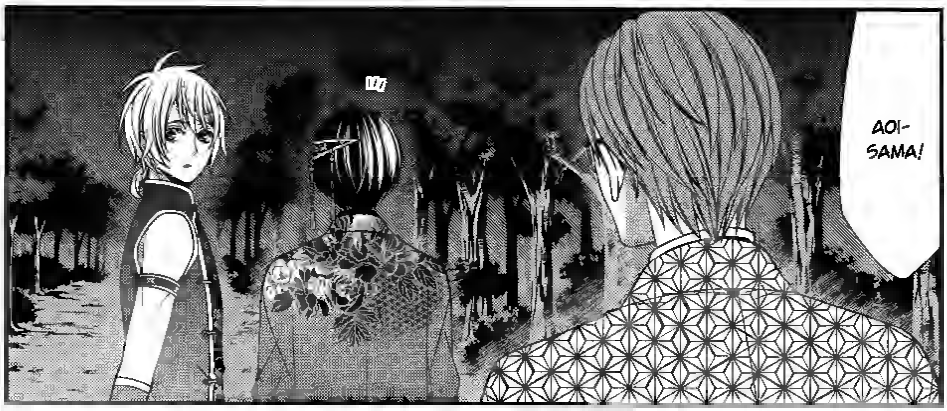
終焉のエリュシオン

The End of Elysion

CHAPTER 12: A FRIEND'S WHEREABOUTS

蓮見ナツメ


AOI AND HIS GROUP ARE OUT HUNTING...


AOI-SAMA!

WHAT'S THE MATTER?
IT'S BEEN THREE DAYS SINCE THE LAST TIME I SAW FUTABA, DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO HIM?
FUTABA HAS HIS REASONS FOR HIS ABSENCE

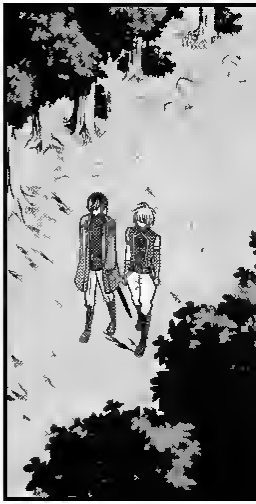
... NO.
HIS REASONS? IS HE FEELING UNWELL?
THEN, WHAT HAP-PENED?
DON'T TELL ME HE JUST FELT ON SKIPPING
BECAUSE IF THAT'S THE CASE, THAT'S WAY TOO IRRE-SPONSIBLE OF HIM.
DO YOU THINK FUTABA WOULD DO SUCH A THING?
UNLIKE US, HE STILL LACKS EXPERIENCE AND HE HAS BEEN DOING HIS BEST SINCE HE WAS LITTLE. YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?
DO YOU THINK SOMEONE LIKE HIM WOULD JUST SKIP WORK WITHOUT A PROPER EXCUSE?

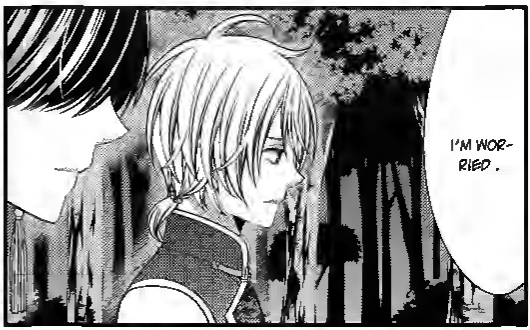
IT'S A HARD BLOW TO BE MISSING SOMEONE AS STRONG AS FUTABA. SO I WANT ALL OF YOU TO PUT IN SOME EXTRA EFFORT TODAY.

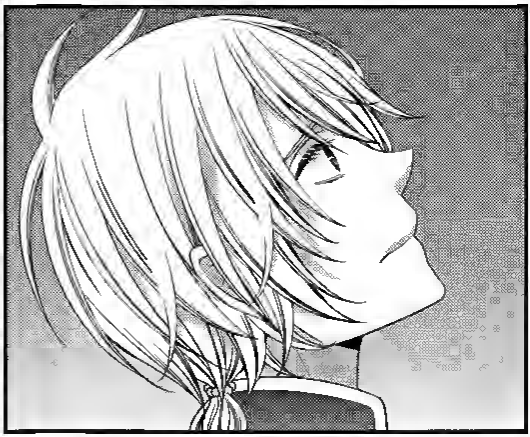
WELL, I...
I CANNOT EXPLAIN THE DETAILS FOR NOW.

I WILL ENTRUST THIS PLACE TO YOU.
WELL THEN, WE'LL BE LEAVING.

— IT IS ACTUALLY US
WHO WISH TO HEAR HIS EXPLANATION THE MOST.

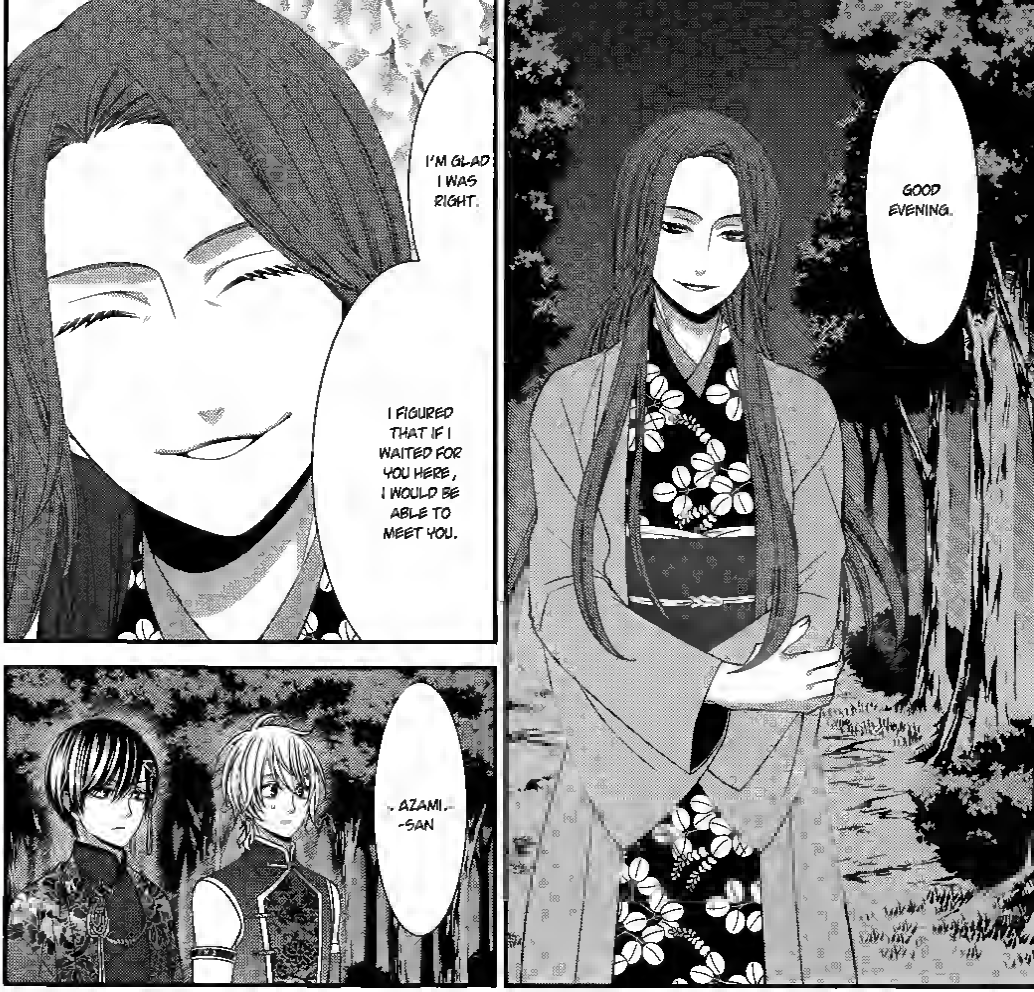


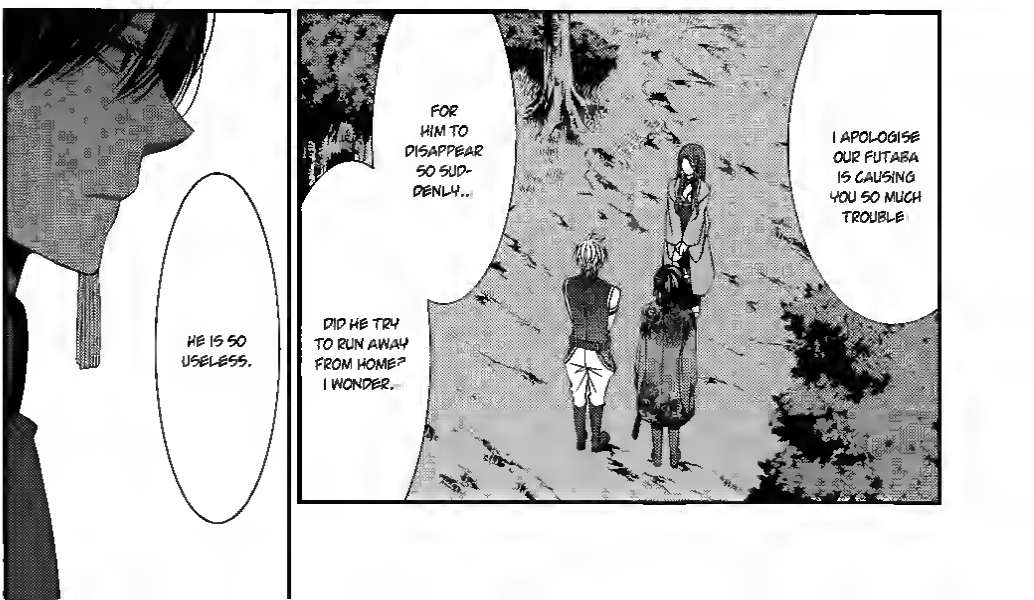




FUTABA DISAPPEARED.

IT HAS ALREADY BEEN THREE DAYS SINCE HIS DISAPPEARANCE.
WE COULDN'T CONTACT HIM, AND WE HAVE TRIED LOOKING FOR HIM EVERYWHERE BUT YET THERE WAS NOT A SINGLE TRACE OF HIM
AOI-SAMA, KAZUHA-SAMA,

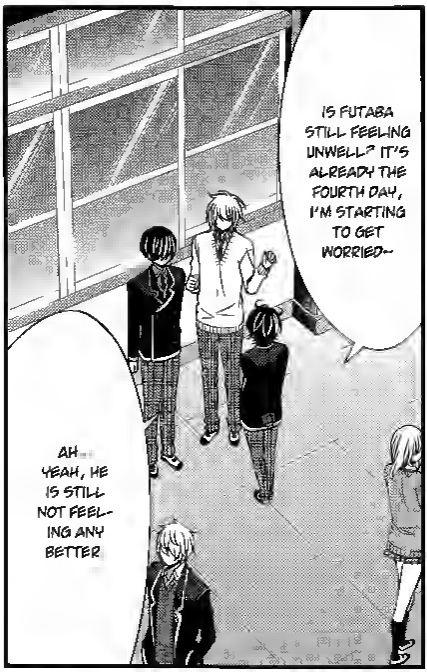

GOOD EVENING.
I'M GLAD I WAS RIGHT.
I FIGURED THAT IF I WAITED FOR YOU HERE, I WOULD BE ABLE TO MEET YOU.
..AZAMI..
-SAN


I APOLOGISE OUR FUTABA IS CAUSING YOU SO MUCH TROUBLE
FOR HIM TO DISAPPEAR SO SUD-DENLY...
DID HE TRY TO RUN AWAY FROM HOME? I WONDER.
HE IS SO USELESS.

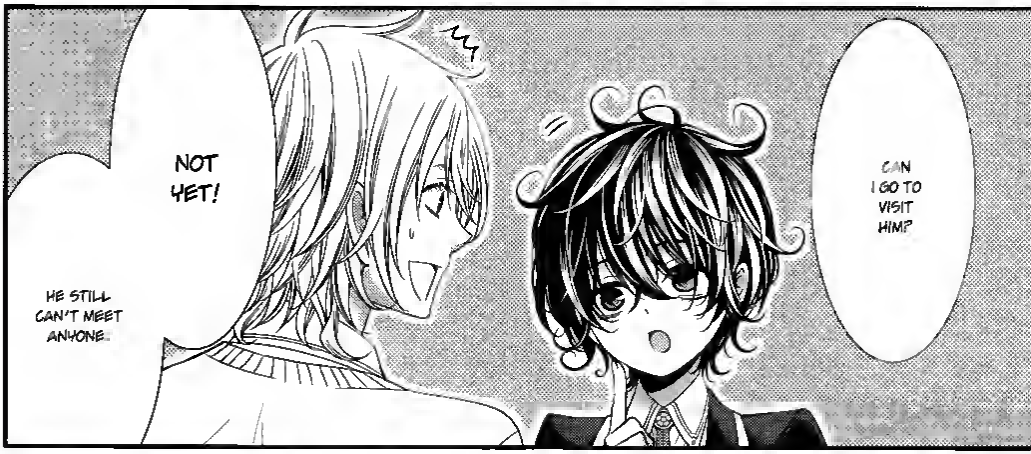
HE IS REALLY SUCH AN USELESS BOY...
FUTABA IS NOT USELESS.
I REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT THAT BOY IS THINKING.
BEFORE HE DISAPPEARED I TOLD HIM I THOUGHT HE WASN'T WORKING HARD ENOUGH AND HE JUST STAYED THERE WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING
HE IS ONE OF OUR STRONGEST FIGHTERS.
WERE YOU PROPERLY LOOKING AT HIM?
YOUR SON HAS GROWN INTO SUCH A FINE PERSON,
SO PLEASE DON'T IMPOSE YOUR VALUES ON HIM.

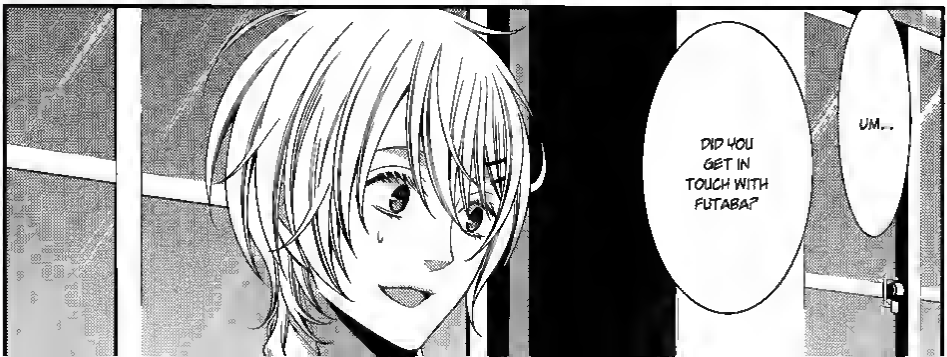
WHAT DOES SOMEONE LIKE YOU KNOW?
AFTER MESSING UP THE LIVES OF SO MANY PEOPLE, DO YOU THINK YOU ARE IN POSITION TO TELL ME WHAT TO DO!?
YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND ANYTHING ABOUT ME, SO DON'T SPEAK AS IF YOU DO!
.....
. SO DISGUSTING.

.....
I CAN'T FEEL AT EASE, EVEN AT SCHOOL.
ME NEITHER...
MAYBE WE SHOULD SKIP SCHOOL AND LOOK FOR FUTABA.
IT'S WEIRD! IT'S ALREADY BEEN FOUR DAYS SINCE HE DISAP-PEARED!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?


IS FUTABA STILL FEELING UNWELL? IT'S ALREADY THE FOURTH DAY, I'M STARTING TO GET WORRIED~
AH... YEAH, HE IS STILL NOT FEELING ANY BETTER

GOOD MORNING!
AH, TSUGUMI-KUN


CAN I GO TO VISIT HIM?
NOT YET!
HE STILL CAN'T MEET ANYONE..


UM..
DID YOU GET IN TOUCH WITH FUTABA?

TELL HIM TO REPLY TO MY TEXTS WHEN HE STARTS FEELING A BIT BETTER.
OKAY, I'LL TELL HIM.
NO, HE HASN'T BEEN REPLYING AT ALL.
IS HE FEELING SO BAD THAT HE CAN'T EVEN TOUCH HIS PHONE?
YEAH, MAYBE.
PLEASE~!

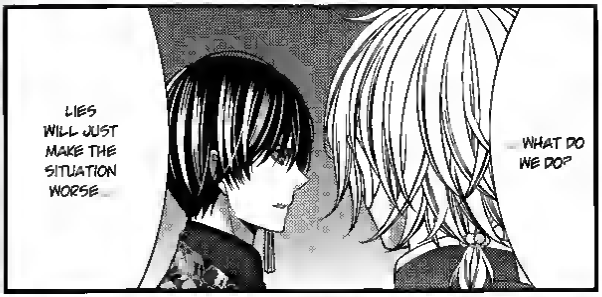
...HARUOMI,
DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT HE SAID AT THE END?
I DO
...IF YOU WERE TO ACTUALLY MEET HIM, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
WHAT WOULD I DO? IT'S AS IORI SAID.
AND I'M PLANNING ON DOING SO
YOU UNDERSTAND IT TOO, RIGHT, MASACHIKA?
IORI...

AH, SO YOU CAN TELL BECAUSE OF MY PRES-ENCE.
I AM NO LONGER HUMAN, YOU SEE.
NEXT TIME WE MEET, WE'LL BE ENEMIES.
SO JUST THINK OF ME AS DEAD.
BYE-BYE.
MASACHIKA, HARUOMI...
. I BEG YOU, DON'T SHOW UP...
IORI...

UM, AOI-SAMA!
WHAT IS IT?
SO FUTABA IS NOT COMING TODAY EITHER...
IS IT TRUE THAT A SECOND KING HAS APPEARED!?

WE ARE NOT SURE, BUT THERE IS A POSSI-BILITY.
ざわっ

I HEARD THAT HISUI-SAMA TOLD THE ELDERS IN ORDER TO ASK FOR REINFORCE-MENTS
DID SOME-ONE LEAK THAT INFOR-MATION?
SO MAYBE THAT'S HOW.


LIES WILL JUST MAKE THE SITUATION WORSE...
...WHAT DO WE DO?

THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY.

PLUS, LATELY THE KING'S SEAL HAS BEEN UNSTABLE...
IT CAN'T BE...
WE STILL HAVEN'T FOUND SUOH...

FOR WHAT REASON DO YOU THINK WE ARE HERE!?
ONE OR TWO, IT'S THE SAME!
I WILL DEFEAT ANY KING!!
THAT'S ...
THAT'S RIGHT!
WE HAVE AOI-SAMA AND KAZUHA-SAMA ON OUR SIDE...!
WE'LL HELP TOO!
SO COOL!
IF THE PERSON WHO SEALED THE KING SAYS SO, IT SOUNDS MORE RELI-ABLE~

LONG TIME NO SEE—
THIS PRESENCE...
THIS PLACE HASN'T CHANGED AT ALL
DON'T TELL ME...

HUH
LARGE AMOUNTS OF YOGUE ARE GATHERING.!
THE SECOND KING...!!

!?
HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT US?
AOI-KUN, KAZUHA-KUN, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.
YOU'VE GROWN SO MUCH.
I SEE.
SO HARUOMI DID IT.
HE EVEN KNOWS ABOUT HARUOMI.
EVEN THOUGH I CAN'T SEE HIS FACE VERY WELL BECAUSE IT'S DARK,
HE LOOKS LIKE THE PERSON IN THE PHOTO THAT THE DOCTOR SHOWED US...!

YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE TO GO RIGHT INTO YOUR ENEMY'S TERRITORY...
THANKS.
WELL OF COURSE... I CAME ONLY BECAUSE I BELIEVE I CAN WIN
I SEE...
WELL THEN,
I SUPPOSE THAT MEANS YOU ARE READY TO BE CUT IN TWO!

FU...

FUTABA
...!?

I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I? I BELIEVE I CAN WIN.
NOW LET'S SEE...
GOOD LUCK PROTECTING THIS PLACE.
FUTABA BLOCKS AOI'S ATTACK. WHAT IS IORI'S GOAL...?
TO BE CONTINUED.

AQUA SCANS
PRESENTS
The End of Elysion c.12
RW: SHIRO
ED: MIZUOUJI & SAYURI
TL: EXIAHE
PR: SVELYN
QC: MIZUOUJI
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